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(54) METHOD OF CONTROLLING A PUMP AND MOTOR

VERFAHREN ZUM STEUERN EINER PUMPE UND EINES MOTORS

PROCÉDÉ DE CONTRÔLE D'UNE POMPE ET D'UN MOTEUR

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Description

BACKGROUND

[0001] Submersible well pumps are connected to above-ground drive systems that control the operation of the pump. Some conventional pump controllers include only start capacitors and relays to turn the pump on and off based on system pressure. These pump controllers have limited capabilities with respect to pump control, safety, and customization. Variable frequency drives (VFDs) have also been used to control submersible well pumps but with limited capabilities regarding user-friendly control and customization. Conventional drives have also generally been designed for use with particular types of motors and often cannot be used to retrofit motors that are already installed in the well, especially two-wire, single-phase motors.

[0002] US2007/084274A1 describes a leak diagnosing technology in which a diagnostic space capable of being closed is defined which includes therein a fuel tank and a canister, the closed diagnostic space being pressurized by an air pump to diagnose the presence or absence of a leak in the diagnostic space based on whether or not a pressure in the diagnostic space indicates a predetermined pressure change. When the diagnosis is completed, the air pump is reversely rotated to cause a reduction in the pressure in the diagnostic space to thereby quickly return the pressure to a target pressure in a steady state.

[0003] US2003/051541A1 describes a pressure-changing device of a leak check system for a fuel vapor treatment system which has a pressure chamber formed in a peripheral space of a communicating path connecting a pump with an electromagnetic valve, the pressure chamber being deviated from flow delivered by the pump. The electromagnetic valve is opened to connect the communicating path with a canister. Then, a purge valve is closed and the pump is turned on to change pressure in a fuel vapor path. A pressure sensor attached on a side wall of the pressure chamber detects pressure in the communicating path to determine pressure in the fuel vapor path. The leak check system judges existence of leak in the fuel vapor treatment system from pressure in the fuel vapor path.

SUMMARY

[0004] Some embodiments of the invention provide a method of controlling a pump driven by a motor with the pump in fluid communication with a fluid system according to claim 1.

[0005] The method may further comprise causing the pump to continue normal operation when the temporarily boosted pressure does not stay above the pressure set point after the pump has stopped the temporary boost.

[0006] The method according to the preceding paragraph and further comprising periodically determining

whether the motor has reached a steady state operating frequency again.

[0007] The method according to the preceding paragraph and further comprising determining whether the motor has reached a steady state operating frequency about every two minutes.

[0008] Determining whether the motor has reached a steady state operating frequency may include determining whether the speed of the motor is steady.

[0009] Entering the sleep mode may be independent of well depth.

[0010] The method may further comprise boosting the pressure by about 0.02 MPa (three pounds per square inch).

[0011] The method according to the preceding paragraph and further comprising determining whether the pressure drops below a pressure set point.

[0012] The method may further comprise disabling the sleep mode when the pressure drops to below a pressure set point minus about 0.03 MPa (five pounds per square inch).

[0013] The method may further comprise determining whether the motor has reached a steady state operating frequency by determining whether a frequency of the motor has stayed constant for at least about one minute.

[0014] The method may further comprise determining whether the pressure in the fluid system drops within about 15 seconds after being temporarily boosted.

[0015] In some embodiments, a method of controlling the pump can include determining whether the pump has entered the sleep mode during a predetermined time period and shutting down the pump due to a pipe break fault if the pump has not entered the sleep mode during the predetermined time period.

[0016] In some embodiments, a method of controlling the pump driven by a motor can include causing the pump to enter a sleep mode if a pressure in the fluid system does not drop after being temporarily boosted; determining whether the pump has entered the sleep mode during a predetermined time period; and shutting down the pump due to a pipe break fault if the pump has not entered the sleep mode during the predetermined time period. The pump is in fluid communication with a fluid system.

[0017] The predetermined time period may be at least about four hours.

[0018] The predetermined time period may be up to about fourteen days.

[0019] The method may further comprise determining whether the motor has reached a steady state operating frequency.

[0020] The method according to the preceding paragraph and further comprising causing the pump to temporarily boost the pressure in the fluid system once the motor has reached a steady state operating frequency.

[0021] The method may further comprise indicating on a display that there has been a pipe break fault.

[0022] The method may further comprise automatically causing a relay output to be energized when there is a

pipe break fault.

[0023] The method may further comprise modifying the predetermined time period.

[0024] The method may further comprise temporarily disabling the pipe break fault.

[0025] According to some embodiments, a method of controlling the pump driven by a motor can include determining a pressure in the fluid system when the pump starts and operating the motor in a line fill mode at a low frequency for a time period if the pressure in the fluid system is less than a minimum pressure set point in order to fill the fluid system. The method can also include operating the motor at a normal frequency after the minimum pressure set point is reached in order to increase the pressure to a normal pressure set point. The pump is in fluid communication with a fluid system.

[0026] The method may further comprise operating the motor at a low frequency until the pressure reaches a pressure set point of about 0.07 MPa (10 pounds per square inch).

[0027] The method may further comprise operating the motor at a low frequency for a time period of about five minutes.

[0028] The method may further comprise operating the motor at a low frequency of about 45 Hertz.

[0029] The method according to the preceding paragraph and further comprising operating the motor at about 45 Hertz for about one minute to about five minutes, then operating the motor at about 45 Hertz to about 50 Hertz for about three minutes to about five minutes, and then operating the motor at about 55 Hertz for about one minute, if the pressure has not reached the minimum pressure set point.

[0030] The method according to the preceding paragraph and further comprising operating the motor at about 55 Hertz for about five minutes if the pressure has not reached the minimum pressure set point.

[0031] The method may further comprise automatically operating the motor in the line fill mode unless a manual interrupt feature is enabled.

[0032] The method according to the preceding paragraph and further comprising enabling the manual interrupt feature by manually changing a speed of the motor.

[0033] The method may further comprise operating the motor in the line fill mode in order to help prevent water hammering.

[0034] The method may further comprise operating the motor in the line fill mode after the motor has been manually stopped and then started again.

[0035] The method may further comprise operating the motor at the normal frequency after the line fill mode and increasing the pressure up to a normal pressure set point of about 0.4 MPa (60 pounds per square inch).

[0036] Some embodiments of the invention can provide a controller including a variable frequency drive circuit that controls operation of the pump and a control panel connected to the variable frequency drive circuit. The control panel can include an automatic start button

and a stop button. The variable frequency drive circuit can automatically operate in a line fill mode when the pump starts when the automatic start button is engaged and the pump can be disabled when the stop button is engaged.

[0037] Some embodiments of the invention can provide a controller for a pump driven by a motor, the controller comprising a variable frequency drive circuit that controls operation of the pump and a control panel connected to the variable frequency drive circuit. The control panel can include an automatic start button and a stop button. The variable frequency drive circuit can automatically operate in a line fill mode when the pump starts when the automatic start button is engaged and the pump can be disabled when the stop button is engaged. The pump is in fluid communication with a fluid system.

[0038] In the controller the variable frequency drive circuit may operate in the line fill mode by determining a pressure in the fluid system when the pump starts.

[0039] In the controller according to the preceding paragraph the variable frequency drive circuit may operate the motor at a low frequency for a time period if the pressure in the fluid system is less than a minimum pressure set point in order to fill the fluid system.

[0040] In the controller according to the preceding paragraph the variable frequency drive circuit may operate the motor at a normal frequency after the timer period has expired in order to maintain a normal pressure set point.

[0041] In the controller the variable frequency drive circuit may automatically start and operate in the line fill mode after a power interruption if the automatic start button is engaged.

[0042] According to some embodiments, a method of controlling a pump driven by a motor can include operating the motor at a normal operating frequency, determining an actual pressure in the fluid system, comparing the actual pressure to a pressure set point, and generating a dry run fault if the pressure set point cannot be achieved by operating the motor at the normal operating frequency. The pump is in fluid communication with a fluid system.

[0043] The method may further comprise operating the motor at a normal operating frequency above about 30 Hertz.

[0044] The method may further comprise comparing the actual pressure to a pressure set point of about 0.07 MPa (10 pounds per square inch).

[0045] The method may further comprise determining an actual pressure adjacent to a pressure tank fluidly coupled to the pump.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0046]

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a variable frequency drive according to one embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the variable frequency drive of FIG. 1 with a cover removed.

FIG. 3 is an interior view of the variable frequency drive of FIG. 1.

FIG. 4 is a front view of a control pad of the variable frequency drive of FIG. 1.

FIG. 5 is a schematic view of the variable frequency drive of FIG. 1 installed in a fluid system.

FIG. 6 is a schematic illustration of the variable frequency drive of FIG. 1.

FIG. 7 is a flow chart illustrating a pump out operation.

FIG. 8 is a flow chart illustrating an automatic line fill operation.

FIG. 9 is a flow chart illustrating a manual line fill operation.

FIG. 10 is a flow chart illustrating a stop operation.

FIG. 11 is a flow chart illustrating a proportional/integral/derivative (PID) mode control operation.

FIG. 12 is a flow chart illustrating a sleep mode operation.

FIG. 13 is a flow chart illustrating an alternate sleep mode operation.

FIG. 14 is a flow chart illustrating a digital input control operation.

FIG. 15 is a flow chart illustrating a relay output control operation.

FIG. 16 is a flow chart illustrating a main menu.

FIG. 17 is a flow chart illustrating a settings menu.

FIG. 18 is a flow chart illustrating a time parameter menu.

FIG. 19 is a flow chart illustrating a PID control parameter menu.

FIG. 20 is a flow chart illustrating a sleep parameter menu.

FIG. 21 is a flow chart illustrating a password parameter menu.

FIG. 22 is a flow chart illustrating an external set

point parameter menu.

FIG. 23 is a flow chart illustrating a motor parameter menu.

FIG. 24 is a flow chart illustrating a sensor parameter menu.

FIG. 25 is a flow chart illustrating a pipe break parameter menu.

FIG. 26 is a flow chart illustrating a dry run parameter menu.

FIG. 27 is a flow chart illustrating an input/output parameter menu.

FIG. 28 is a flow chart illustrating a reset parameter menu.

FIG. 29 is a flow chart illustrating a backdoor parameter menu.

FIG. 30 is a flow chart illustrating an overheat prevention operation.

FIG. 31 is a flow chart illustrating an overcurrent prevention operation.

FIG. 32 is a flow chart illustrating a jam prevention operation.

FIG. 33 is a flow chart illustrating a pipe break prevention operation.

FIG. 34 is a flow chart illustrating a dry run detection operation.

FIG. 35 is a flow chart illustrating a dry run fault operation.

FIG. 36 is a flow chart illustrating a jam fault operation.

FIG. 37 is a flow chart illustrating an overtemperature fault operation.

FIG. 38 is a flow chart illustrating an overcurrent fault operation.

FIG. 39 is a flow chart illustrating an overvoltage fault operation.

FIG. 40 is a flow chart illustrating an internal fault operation.

FIG. 41 is a flow chart illustrating a ground fault operation.

FIG. 42 is a flow chart illustrating an open transducer fault operation.

FIG. 43 is a flow chart illustrating a shorted transducer fault operation.

FIGS. 44A-44B are flow charts illustrating a multiple faults operation.

FIG. 45 is a flow chart illustrating an undervoltage fault operation.

FIG. 46 is a flow chart illustrating a hardware fault operation.

FIG. 47 is a flow chart illustrating an external fault operation.

FIG. 48 is a flow chart illustrating a pump out button control operation.

FIG. 49 is a flow chart illustrating a pressure preset button control operation.

FIG. 50 is a flow chart illustrating a main menu button control operation.

FIG. 51 is a flow chart illustrating a fault log button control operation.

FIG. 52 is a flow chart illustrating an enter button control operation.

FIG. 53 is a flow chart illustrating a back button control operation. FIG. 54 is a flow chart illustrating an up/down button control operation.

FIG. 55 is a flow chart illustrating a left/right button control operation.

FIG. 56 is a flow chart illustrating a password button control operation.

FIG. 57 is a flow chart illustrating a language button control operation.

FIG. 58 is a flow chart illustrating a status button control operation.

FIG. 59 is a flow chart illustrating a stop button control operation.

FIG. 60 is a flow chart illustrating an automatic start button control operation.

FIG. 61 is a flow chart illustrating a fault reset button control operation.

FIGS. 62A-62D are flow charts illustrating LED indicator control operations.

FIGS. 63A-63D are flow charts illustrating error display control operations.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0047] Before any embodiments of the invention are explained in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and the arrangement of components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the following drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced or of being carried out in various ways. Also, it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology used herein is for the purpose of description and should not be regarded as limiting. The use of "including," "comprising," or "having" and variations thereof herein is meant to encompass the items listed thereafter and equivalents thereof as well as additional items. Unless specified or limited otherwise, the terms "mounted," "connected," "supported," and "coupled" and variations thereof are used broadly and encompass both direct and indirect mountings, connections, supports, and couplings. Further, "connected" and "coupled" are not restricted to physical or mechanical connections or couplings.

[0048] The following discussion is presented to enable a person skilled in the art to make and use embodiments of the invention. The following detailed description is to be read with reference to the figures, in which like elements in different figures have like reference numerals. The figures, which are not necessarily to scale, depict selected embodiments and are not intended to limit the scope of embodiments of the invention.

[0049] FIG. 1 illustrates a variable frequency drive (VFD, hereinafter "the drive") 10 according to one embodiment of the invention. In some embodiments, the drive 10 can be used to control the operation of an AC induction motor 11 that drives a water pump 12 (as shown in FIG. 5). The drive 10 can be used in a residential, commercial, or industrial pump system to maintain a substantially constant pressure. The motor 11 and pump 12 can be a submersible type or an above-ground type. The drive 10 can monitor certain operating parameters and control the operation of the motor 11 in response to the sensed conditions.

[0050] As shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, the drive 10 can include an enclosure 13 and a control pad 14. The enclosure 13 can be a NEMA 1 indoor enclosure or a NEMA 3R outdoor enclosure. In one embodiment, the enclosure 13 can have a width of about 23.50 cm (9.25 inches), a height of about 44.5 cm (17.5 inches), and a depth of about 15.2 cm (6.0 inches).

[0051] The enclosure 13 can include a keyhole mount 16 for fast and easy installation onto a wall, such as a basement wall. The enclosure 13 can include slots 18

through which air that cools the drive 10 can pass out of the enclosure 13. The control pad 14 can be positioned within the enclosure 13 for access through a rectangular aperture 20.

[0052] As shown in FIG. 2, the enclosure 13 can include a removable cover 22 with attached side panels. Removing the cover 22 allows access to a wiring area 24, which is located adjacent to a bottom panel 25 of the enclosure 13 with several conduit holes 26. As shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, the wiring area 24 is free of any electrical components or printed circuit board material that may impede any wiring. The wiring area 24 can provide access to an input power terminal block 28, input/output (I/O) spring terminals 30, and an output power terminal block 32. Each one of the conduit holes 26 can be aligned with one of the input power terminal block 28, the I/O spring terminals 30, and the output power terminal block 32. In addition, in some embodiments, the I/O spring terminals 30 can include digital output terminals 30A, digital input terminals 30B, I/O power supply terminals 30C, and analog input terminals 30D.

[0053] The wiring area 24 can include a wiring space 34 between the bottom panel 25 and the input power terminal block 28, the I/O spring terminals 30, and the output power terminal block 32. The wiring space 34 can be between about three inches and about six inches in height in order to allow enough room for an installer to access the input power terminal block 28, the I/O spring terminals 30, and the output power terminal block 32.

[0054] The input power terminal block 28, I/O spring terminals 30, and the output power terminal block 32 can be used to control the motor 11 and to provide output information in any number of configurations and applications. Various types of inputs can be provided to the drive 10 to be processed and used to control the motor 11. The analog input terminals 30D can receive analog inputs and the digital input terminals 30B can receive digital inputs. For example, any suitable type of run/enable switch can be provided as an input to the drive 10 (e.g., via the digital input terminals 30B). The run/enable switch can be part of a lawn irrigation system, a spa pump controller, a pool pump controller, a float switch, or a clock/timer. In some embodiments, the digital input terminals 30B can accept a variety of input voltages, such as voltages ranging from about 12 volts to about 240 volts, direct current (DC) or alternating current (AC).

[0055] The digital output terminals 30A can connect to digital outputs, such as relay outputs. Any suitable type of indicator device, status output, or fault alarm output can serve as a digital, or relay, output (e.g., be connected to the digital output terminals 30A). A status output can be used to control a second pump, for example, to run the second pump when the pump 12 is running. A fault alarm output can, for example, place a call using a pre-defined phone number, signal a residential alarm system, and/or shut down the pump 12 when a fault is determined. For example, when there is a pipe break fault (as described below with reference to FIG. 33), the digital output

terminals 30A can energize a relay output, causing the pre-defined phone number to be automatically dialed. The input power terminal block 28, the I/O spring terminals 30, and the output power terminal block 32 can all be coupled to a drive circuit board (not shown), for connection to a controller 75 (as shown in FIG. 6) of the drive 10. Further, the input power terminal block 28 and/or the output power terminal block 32 can be removable and replaceable without replacing the drive circuit board or the entire drive 10.

[0056] As shown in FIGS. 1-4, a control pad 14 of the drive 10 can include a backlit liquid crystal display 36 and several control buttons 38. As shown in FIG. 4, the control buttons 38 can include a pump-out button 40, a pressure preset button 42, a main menu button 44, and a fault log button 46. The control buttons 38 can also include a keypad lockout button 48 and a language button 50. The control pad 14 can include several directional buttons 52, a back button 54, and an enter button 56. The control pad 14 can further include a status button 58, a stop button 60, an automatic start button 62, and a fault reset button 64. Finally, the control pad 14 can include light emitting diode (LED) indicators 66, to indicate a status of the drive 10, such as an ON LED 68, a Warning LED 70, and a Fault LED 72.

[0057] As shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, the drive 10 can include an electromagnetic interference (EMI) filter 74. The EMI filter 74 can reduce electrical noise generated by the motor 11, especially noise that interferes with AM radio stations. The drive 10 can reduce electrical noise while simultaneously being compatible with a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI). An unintentional electric path between a source of current and a grounded surface is generally referred to as a "ground fault." Ground faults occur when current is leaking somewhere, and in effect, electricity is escaping to the ground.

[0058] The drive 10 can be compatible with a number of different types of motors 11, including, but not limited to, AC induction motors that are two-wire permanent split capacitor (PSC) single-phase motors; three-wire single-phase motors; or three-phase motors. The drive 10 can be connected to a previously-installed motor 11 in order to retrofit the controls for the motor 11. If the motor is a single-phase motor, the installer can use the control pad 14 to select either two-wire or three-wire. For a three-wire motor 11, the drive 10 can automatically generate a first waveform and a second waveform with the second waveform having a phase angle of about 90 degrees offset from the first waveform. In addition, the controller 75 (as shown in FIG. 6) can automatically set a minimum and maximum frequency allowance for the motor 11 depending on the selection.

[0059] The drive 10 can be programmed to operate after a simple start-up process by a user using the control pad 14. The start-up process can be a five-step process for a single-phase motor 11 and a four-step process for a three-phase motor 11. The start-up process for a single-phase motor 11 can include (1) entering a service factor

current value, (2) selecting either a two-wire motor or a three-wire motor, (3) entering a current time, (4) entering a current date, and (5) engaging the pump-out button 40 or the automatic start button 62. The start-up process for a three-phase motor 11 can include (1) entering a service factor current value, (2) entering a current time, (3) entering a current date, and (4) engaging the pump-out button 40 or the automatic start button 62.

[0060] The pump-out button 40 can be used to enter the drive 10 in a pump out mode to clean out sand and dirt from a newly-dug well. The pump-out button 40 can be engaged once the pump 12 is installed in the new well and once the drive 10 is connected to the motor 11. The pump-out mode can provide an open discharge of sand and dirt from the well, for example, onto a lawn. In one embodiment, the drive 10 can operate the pump 12 in the pump out mode at about 45 Hertz (Hz). The pump out mode operation is further described below with respect to FIG. 7, and a pump-out button control operation is further described below with respect to FIG. 48.

[0061] The controller 75 can include software executed by a digital signal processor (DSP, as shown in FIG. 6) or a microprocessor and can perform real-time control including soft-start, speed regulation, and motor protection. The drive 10 can be controlled to maintain substantially constant water pressure in a water system that may or may not utilize a tank. To achieve this, the controller 75 can implement a classical Proportional/Integral/Derivative (PID) method using pressure error as an input. Pressure error can be calculated by subtracting an actual water pressure from the desired water pressure (i.e., a pressure set point). An updated speed control command can then be generated by multiplying the pressure error by a proportional gain, multiplying the integral of the pressure error by an integral gain, multiplying the derivative of the pressure error by a derivative gain, and summing the results. Thus, the controller 75 can increase or decrease the speed of the motor 11 to maintain a constant pressure set point. The PID mode is further described below with respect to FIG. 11.

[0062] The controller 75 can determine the actual water pressure value from an electronic pressure transducer 15 (e.g., in communication with the controller 75 via the analog input terminals 30D). In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. 5, the pressure transducer 15 can be located near a pressure tank 17 fluidly coupled to the pump 12.

[0063] If motor 11 is off (i.e., not being driven), water pressure can still be monitored, but no actions are taken until the pressure falls below a certain value (e.g., a low band pressure value). If the water pressure falls below the low band pressure, the controller 75 can restart the motor 11. In some embodiments, the low band pressure can be set, or defaulted, to 0.007 - 0.07 MPa (1 - 10 pounds per square inch (PSI)) lower than the pressure set point. Once the motor 11 is restarted, normal operation with PID control (i.e., PID mode) can commence. In one embodiment, one of two conditions can trigger the

controller 75 to turn the motor 11 off. A first condition can be if a sleep mode (described with respect to FIG. 12) is triggered. A second condition can be if the pressure exceeds a certain safety value (i.e., about 0.1 MPa (20 PSI) above the pressure set point). Other conditions that can stop the drive 10 are various faults (described further below), the user pressing the stop button 60, and lack of a digital input for an optional run enable mode.

[0064] For normal operation, with the motor 11 being driven, the controller 75 can regulate pump speed in a continuous fashion using PID control as long as the pressure remains below the safety pressure value, such as about 0.1 MPa (20 PSI) above the pressure set point. The drive 10 can stop the motor 11 whenever the actual pressure exceeds the safety pressure value. During normal operation, as long as water usage does not exceed the motor/pump capabilities, the pressure can remain constant at approximately the pressure set point. Large instantaneous changes in flow requirements can result in variations from the desired pressure band. For example, if flow is stopped, causing the pressure to quickly increase, the motor 11 can be stopped (i.e., set to 0 Hz). This can be considered an alternate sleep mode operation and is further described below with respect to FIG. 13.

[0065] FIGS. 7-15 are flow charts describing pump control according to some embodiments of the invention. The flow chart of FIG. 7 illustrates when the controller 75 receives a signal to run the pump in the pump out mode 76 (e.g., when the pump-out button 40 is pressed). The controller 75 first determines, at step 78, if the pump is already running in pump out mode. If so, the pump is being run at a correct, fixed frequency for pump out mode (step 80). If not, the controller 75, at step 82, ramps up the input frequency of power to the motor 11 to the correct frequency, then proceeds to step 80.

[0066] FIG. 8 illustrates an automatic line fill operation 84, according to some embodiments. This operation can automatically run at drive start-up (e.g., when the drive 10 is powered up, after a power interruption, when the motor 11 is restarted, or when the automatic start button 62 is pressed). Thus, the motor may be off (i.e., at 0 Hz) at the beginning of this operation. The controller 75 first can ramp up the frequency driving the motor from 0 Hz to about 45 Hz in less than a first time period, such as about two seconds (step 86). In a second time period, such as about two minutes, or about five minutes in some embodiments, the controller 75 can start to ramp up the frequency from, for example, about 45 Hz to about 55 Hz (step 88). During the second time period, the controller 75 determines the pressure via input from the pressure transducer 15 (step 90). If the sensed pressure has reached a minimum pressure, or pressure set point (e.g., about 0.07 MPa (10 PSI)), indicating the line has been filled, the fill operation is completed and the controller 75 enters PID mode (step 92). However, if the sensed pressure is less than 0.07 MPa (10 PSI) at step 90, the con-

troller 75 determines if the second time period (e.g., about two minutes or about five minutes) has passed (step 94). If the second period has not passed, the controller 75 reverts back to step 88 and continues to ramp the motor frequency. If the second time period has passed, the controller 75 will hold the frequency at about 55 Hz for about one minute (step 96). The controller 75 then determines if the sensed pressure is about 0.07 MPa (10 PSI) (step 98). If the sensed pressure is about 0.07 MPa (10 PSI), indicating the line has been filled, the fill operation is completed and the controller 75 enters PID mode (step 92). However, if the sensed pressure is still less than 0.07 MPa (10 PSI) at step 90, the controller 75 determines if one minute has passed (step 100). If one minute has not passed, the controller 75 reverts back to step 96. If one minute has passed, a dry run fault is recognized and a dry run fault operation is executed (step 102) (e.g., the system is stopped).

[0067] In one alternative embodiment, step 88 can include setting the frequency to about 45 Hz for the second time period, and if the sensed pressure is less than 0.07 MPa (10 PSI) after the second time period, repeating step 88 with the frequency set to about 50 Hz for another second time period. If the sensed pressure is still less than 0.07 MPa (10 PSI) after the second time period while at

another second time period. If the sensed pressure is still less than 0.07 MPa (10 PSI) after the second time period while at 55 Hz, the controller 75 can continue to step 96.

[0068] FIG. 9 illustrates a manual line fill operation 104, according to some embodiments. The motor 11 is run at a manually-controlled frequency (e.g., entered by a user) at step 106. The motor 11 keeps running at this frequency until the sensed pressure reaches about 10 PSI (step 108). Once the sensed pressure has reached about 0.07 MPa (10 PSI), the controller 75 enters PID mode (step 110). In some embodiments, if the controller 75 does not enter PID mode 10 within a time period (e.g., fifteen minutes), the drive 10 is stopped.

[0069] The manual fill line operation can be considered always enabled because it can be executed at any time during the auto line fill operation. For example, by using the up and down directional buttons 52 on the control pad 14, the user can interrupt the automatic line fill operation and adjust the frequency output to the motor 11, thus changing the motor speed. Once in manual line fill mode, the user can continue to change the speed as needed at any time. The motor 10 can continue at the new set frequency until the sensed pressure reaches about 0.07 MPa (10 PSI), and then it will proceed to PID mode, as described above. The manual fill line operation can be beneficial for both vertical or horizontal pipe fill applications. In addition, both the automatic fill line operation and the manual fill line operation can prevent common motor issues seen in conventional systems, such as motor overloading and the occurrence of water hammering.

[0070] FIG. 10 illustrates a stop operation 112, accord-

ing to some embodiments. The controller 75 determines if the pump is running (step 114). If the pump is not running (e.g., if the drive 10 is in sleep mode or a run enable command is not triggered), the drive 10 is stopped (step 116). If the pump is running, the motor is allowed to coast to a stop (i.e., 0 Hz) at step 118, then proceeds to step 116.

[0071] FIG. 11 illustrates a PID mode operation 120, according to some embodiments. The controller 75 continuously determines if the pressure is at a programmed set point (step 122). If the pressure is not at the programmed set point, PID feedback control is used to ramp the frequency until the pressure reaches the set point (step 124).

[0072] FIG. 12 illustrates the controller 75, running in PID mode (at step 126), checking if the pump should enter a sleep mode. First, at step 128, the controller 75 determines if the frequency of the motor 11 is stable within about ± 3 Hz (e.g., at a steady-state frequency). If not (step 130), a boost delay timer is reset and the controller 75 reverts to step 126. If the frequency of the motor 11 is stable, the boost delay timer is incremented at step 132. If, at step 134 the boost delay timer is not expired after being incremented, the controller 75 reverts back to step 126. However, if, at step 134 the boost delay timer has expired, the controller 75 proceeds to step 136 and the pressure is boosted (e.g., about 0.02 MPa (3 PSI) above the pressure set point) for a short period of time (e.g., about 15 seconds or about 30 seconds).

[0073] Until the short period of time has passed (step 138), the controller 75 determines if the pressure stays between the pressure set point (e.g., about 10 PSI) and the boosted pressure (step 140). If, in that short period of time, the pressure falls outside (i.e., below) the range between the pressure set point and the boosted pressure, the controller 75 reverts back to step 126. If, however, the pressure stays between the pressure set point and the boosted pressure, the controller 75 then decrements the pressure over another short period of time (step 142). Until the short period of time has passed (step 144), the controller 75 determines if the pressure stays between the pressure set point (e.g., the steady-state pressure) and the boosted pressure (step 146). If, in that short period of time, the pressure falls outside the range between the pressure set point and the boosted pressure, indicating that there is flow occurring, the controller 75 reverts back to step 126. If, however, the pressure stays between the pressure set point and the boosted pressure, indicating no flow, the controller 75 then determines if the pressure is above the pressure set point (step 148). If not, the controller 75 reverts back to step 126. If the pressure is above the pressure set point, the pump enters the sleep mode causing the motor frequency to coast down to 0 Hz (step 150) and a "sleep mode active" message to be displayed on the liquid crystal display 36 (step 152). While in sleep mode, at step 154, the controller 75 continuously determines if the pressure stays above a wakeup differential pressure (e.g., about 0.03

MPa (5 PSI) below the pressure set point). If the pressure drops below the wakeup differential pressure, the controller 75 reverts back to step 126.

[0074] In some embodiments, the controller 75 will only proceed from step 126 to step 128 if the pressure has been stable for at least a minimum time period (e.g., one or two minutes). Also, when the controller 75 cycles from step 128 to step 130 and back to step 126, the controller 75 can wait a time period (e.g., one or two minutes) before again proceeding to step 128. In some embodiments, the controller 75 can determine if the motor speed is stable at step 128. In addition, the controller 75 can perform some steps of FIGS. 11 and 12 simultaneously.

[0075] By using the sleep mode operation, a separate device does not need to be purchased for the drive 10 (e.g., a flow meter). Further, the sleep mode operation can self-adjust for changes in pump performance or changes in the pumping system. For example, well pump systems often have changes in the depth of the water in the well both due to drawdown as well as due to time of year or drought conditions. The sleep mode operation can be executed independent of such changes. In addition, the sleep mode operation does not require speed conditions specific to the pump being used.

[0076] FIG. 13 illustrates the controller 75, running in PID mode, checking if the pump should enter an alternate sleep mode 156. First, at step 158, the controller 75 determines if pressure is at a preset value above the pressure set point (e.g., 0.1 MPa (20 PSI) above the pressure set point). If not (step 160), a timer is reset and the controller 75 reverts to step 156. If the pressure is 0.1 MPa (20 PSI) above the pressure set point, the timer is incremented at step 162. If, at step 164 the timer is less than a value, such as 0.5 seconds, the controller 75 reverts back to step 156. However, if, at step 164 the timer has exceeded 0.5 seconds, the controller 75 proceeds to step 166 and the timer is reset. The controller 75 then sets the motor frequency to 0 Hz (step 168) and displays a "sleep mode active" message 170 on the liquid crystal display 36. The controller 75 then again increments the timer (step 172) until the time reaches another value, such as 1 minute (step 174), and then proceeds to step 176. At step 176, the controller 75 keeps the motor frequency at 0 Hz and displays a "sleep mode active" message 178 on the liquid crystal display 36 as long as the pressure is above a wakeup differential pressure (step 180). If the pressure drops below the wakeup differential pressure (e.g., water is being used), the controller 75 reverts back to step 156.

[0077] FIG. 14 illustrates an example of controller operation using the digital input. The controller 75 first recognizes a digital input (step 182). If an external input parameter is unused (step 184), the controller 75 takes no action whether the input is high or low (steps 186 and 188, respectively). If the external input parameter is set to a run enabled mode (step 190) and the input is high (e.g., indicating allowing the drive 10 to be run), the con-

troller 75 determines if the drive 10 is running (step 192). If the drive 10 is running, the controller 75 can take no action (step 196) and continue in its current mode of operation. If the drive 10 is not running, the controller 75 can start an auto line fill operation (step 194), as described with reference to FIG. 8 (e.g., similar to actions taken if the auto start button 62 is pressed). If the external input parameter is set to a run enabled mode (step 190) and the input is low (e.g., indicating to stop the drive 10), the controller 75 can check if the drive 10 is stopped (step 198). If the drive 10 is not stopped, the controller 75 can execute a stop operation (step 200), as described with reference to FIG. 10. If the drive 10 is stopped, the controller 75 can take no action (step 202). If the external input parameter is set to an external fault mode (step 204) and the input is high (e.g., indicating an external fault), the controller 75 can perform an external fault operation (step 206), as described with reference to FIG. 47. If the external input parameter is set to an external fault mode (step 204) and the input is low (e.g., indicating there is no external fault), the controller 75 can clear any external fault indications (step 208). If the external input parameter is set to an external set point mode (step 210) and the input is high, the controller 75 sets the PID set point to "external" (step 212), for example, so that the digital input controls the pressure set point for PID pressure control. If the external input parameter is set to an external set point mode (step 210) and the input is low, the controller 75 sets the PID set point to "normal" (step 214), for example, so that the digital input has no control over the pressure set point for PID pressure control.

[0078] FIG. 15 illustrates controller operation of a relay output. When the drive 10 is powered (step 216), the controller 75 determines if a relay output parameter is unused (step 218). If so, the controller 75 turns the relay off (step 220). If not, the controller 75 determines if the relay output parameter is set to a run mode (step 222). If the relay output parameter is set to a run mode (at step 222), the controller 75 determines if the drive 10 is running (step 224). The controller 75 will then turn the relay off if the drive 10 is not running (step 226) or turn the relay on if the drive 10 is running (step 228). If the relay output parameter is not set to a run mode (at step 222), the controller 75 determines if the relay output parameter is set to a fault mode (step 230). If so, the controller 75 determines, at step 232, if the drive 10 is tripped (e.g., a fault has occurred and the drive 10 has been stopped). The controller 75 will then turn the relay off if the drive 10 has not been tripped (step 234) or turn the relay on if the drive 10 has been tripped (step 236). For example, if an alarm is the relay output, the alarm can be activated if the drive 10 has been tripped to indicate the fault condition to the user.

[0079] FIGS. 16-29 are flow charts describing menu operations according to some embodiments of the invention. FIG. 16 illustrates a main menu 238 of the controller 75. The main menu 238 can include the following parameters: settings menu 240, motor 242, sensor 244, pipe

break 246, dry run 248, I/O (input/output) 250, and reset to defaults 252. The user can view the main menu 238 on the liquid crystal display 36 using the main menu button 44 on the control pad 14. The user can then toggle up and down through the parameters of the main menu 238 using the directional buttons 52. The user can select a parameter using the enter button 56.

[0080] From the main menu 238, the user can select the settings menu 240. The user can toggle up and down through the settings menu 240 to view the following parameters, as shown in FIG. 17: time 254, PID control 256, sleep 258, password 260, and external set point 262.

[0081] FIG. 18 illustrates the user's options after selecting the time parameter 254 from the settings menu 240. The user can toggle up and down between setting a current hour 264 or a date 266. If the user selects the hour parameter 264, the user can enter a current time 268, and a time value for the controller 75 will be changed according to the user's input 270. If the user selects the date parameter 266, the user can enter a current date 272 and a date value for the controller 75 will be changed according to the user's input 270.

[0082] FIG. 19 illustrates the user's options after selecting the PID control parameter 256 from the settings menu 240. The following parameters can be chosen after selecting PID control 256: proportional gain 274, integral time 276, derivative time 278, derivative limit 280, and restore to defaults 282. The user can select any of the parameters 274-282 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameters, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270.

[0083] FIG. 20 illustrates the user's options after selecting the sleep parameter 258 from the settings menu 240. The following parameters can be chosen after selecting sleep 258: boost differential 284, boost delay 286, wakeup differential 288, and restore to defaults 290. The user can select any of the parameters 284-290 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameters, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270. The parameters can be set to modify or adjust the sleep mode operation described with reference to FIG. 12.

[0084] FIG. 21 illustrates the user's options after selecting the password parameter 260 from the settings menu 240. The following parameters can be chosen after selecting password 260: password timeout 292 and password 294. The user can select any of the parameters 292-294 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameters, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270. The password timeout parameter 292 can include a timeout period value. If the control pad 14 is not accessed within the set timeout period, the controller 75 175 can automatically lock the control pad 14 (i.e., enter a password protection mode). To unlock the keys, or leave the password protection mode, the user must enter the password that is set under the password parameter 294. This is further described below with reference to FIG. 56.

[0085] FIG. 22 illustrates the user's options after selecting the external set point parameter 262 from the settings menu 240. The user can select the external set point parameter 296 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameter 296, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270.

[0086] FIG. 23 illustrates the user's options after selecting the motor parameter 242 from the main menu 238. The following parameters can be chosen after selecting motor 242: service factor amps 298, connection type 300, minimum frequency 302, maximum frequency 304, and restore to defaults 306. The connection type parameter 300 may only be available if the drive 10 is being used to run a single-phase motor. If the drive 10 is being used to run a three-phase motor, the connection type parameter 300 may not be provided. The user can select any of the parameters 298-306 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameters, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270.

[0087] FIG. 24 illustrates the user's options after selecting the sensor parameter 244 from the main menu 238. The following parameters can be chosen after selecting sensor 244: minimum pressure 308, maximum pressure 310, and restore to defaults 312. The user can select any of the parameters 308-312 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameters, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270.

[0088] FIG. 25 illustrates the user's options after selecting the pipe break parameter 246 from the main menu 238. The following parameters can be chosen after selecting pipe break 246: enable pipe break detection 314 and number of days without sleep 316. The user can select either of the parameters 314-316 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameters, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270. In some embodiments, the number of days without sleep parameter 316 can include values in the range of about four hours to about fourteen days. The enable pipe break detection parameter 314 can allow the user to enable or disable pipe break detection.

[0089] FIG. 26 illustrates the user's options after selecting the dry run parameter 248 from the main menu 238. The following parameters can be chosen after selecting dry run 248: auto reset delay 318, number of resets 320, and reset window 322. The user can select either of the parameters 318-320 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameters, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270. The user can select the reset window parameter 322 to view a value 324 indicating a reset window of the controller 75. The reset window value can be based from the values chosen for the auto reset delay 318 and the number of resets 320. Thus, the reset window parameter 322 can be a view-only (i.e., non-adjustable) parameter.

[0090] FIG. 27 illustrates the user's options after selecting the I/O parameter 250 from the main menu 238.

The following parameters can be chosen after selecting I/O 250: external input 326 and relay output 328. The user can select either of the parameters 326-328 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameters, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270.

[0091] FIG. 28 illustrates the user's options after selecting the reset to defaults parameter 252 from the main menu 238. The user can select the parameter 330 to change all values to factory default values 270.

[0092] FIG. 29 illustrates a backdoor parameter 332, according to some embodiments. With the backdoor parameter 332, the user can choose a parameter 334 not normally accessible through other menus. The user can select the parameter 334 to modify one or more preferences associated with the parameter, and appropriate values for the controller 75 will be changed 270. The parameter 334 that the user selects can be from a list of parameters 336. The list of parameters 336 can include one or more of the parameters disclosed above as well as other parameters.

[0093] FIGS. 30-47 are flow charts describing drive warnings and faults according to some embodiments of the invention. FIG. 30 illustrates an overheat prevention operation of the controller 75. When the drive 10 is running (step 338), the controller 75 first determines, at step 340, if a power module temperature is greater than a first temperature (e.g., 115 degrees Celsius). If so, an overheat fault operation is executed (step 342). If not, the controller 75 then determines, at step 344, if the power module temperature is greater than a second temperature (e.g., about 113 degrees Celsius). If so, the controller 75, at step 346, decreases the speed of the motor by a first value (e.g., about 12 Hz per minute) and continues to step 348. If not, the controller 75 then determines, at step 350, if the power module temperature is greater than a third temperature (e.g., about 110 degrees Celsius). If so, the controller 75, at step 352, decreases the speed of the motor by a second value (e.g., about 6 Hz per minute) and continues to step 348. If not, the controller 75 then determines, at step 354, if the power module temperature is greater than a fourth temperature (e.g., about 105 degrees Celsius). If so, the controller 75, at step 356, decreases the speed of the motor by a third value (e.g., about 3 Hz per minute) and continues to step 348. If not, the controller 75 proceeds to step 348. At step 348, the controller 75 determines if the speed has been reduced (i.e., if the controller 75 performed steps 346, 352, or 356). If so, the controller 75, at step 358, determines if the power module temperature is less than a fifth value (e.g., about 95 degrees Celsius). If the power module temperature is less than the fifth value, then the controller 75 increases the speed of the motor by a fourth value (e.g., about 1.5 Hz per minute) until the motor's original speed is reached (step 360) and a warning message "TPM: Speed Reduced" is displayed (step 362). If the power module temperature is greater than the fifth value, the controller 75 proceeds straight to step 362.

From step 362, the controller 75 reverts back to step 338, and repeats the above process. If, at step 348, the controller 75 determines that the speed has not been reduced (i.e., the controller 75 did not performed steps 346, 352, or 356), then the "TPM: Speed Reduced" warning message is cleared (step 364), the controller 75 reverts back to step 338, and the above operation is repeated. In some embodiments, the power module being monitored can be the drive 10 itself or various components of the drive 10 (e.g., a heat sink of the controller 75, the motor 11, or the pump 12).

[0094] FIG. 31 illustrates an overcurrent prevention operation of the controller 75. When the drive 10 is running (step 366), the controller 75 determines, at step 368, if the drive current is being limited (e.g., because it is above the reference service factor amps parameter 298 in FIG. 23). If so, a warning message "TPM: Service Amps" is displayed (step 370) and the Warning LED 70 is illuminated (step 372). The controller 75 then reverts back to step 366 where the operation is repeated. If the drive current is not being limited, the "TPM: Service Amps" warning message and the Warning LED 70 are cleared (step 374).

[0095] FIG. 32 illustrates a jam prevention operation of the controller 75. When the motor is triggered to start (step 376), the controller 75 determines, at step 378, if a startup sequence is completed. If so, a timer and a counter are reset (step 380), any warning messages are cleared (step 382), and the motor is operating (step 384). If the startup sequence is not completed at step 378, then the controller 75 proceeds to step 386 to check if current limitation is active. If not, the timer and the counter can be reset (step 388), and the controller 75 can proceed back to step 376. If the controller 75 detects that current limitation is active at step 386, then the timer is incremented (step 390). If the timer has not reached five seconds, at step 392, the controller 75 reverts back to step 376. However, if the timer has reached five seconds, at step 392, the controller 75 proceeds to step 396. The controller 75 sets a jam warning (step 396) and increments the counter (step 398). If the counter is greater than five, at step 400, the controller 75 executes a jam fault operation (step 402). If the counter is not greater than five, the controller 75 determines if it is controlling a two-wire motor (step 404). If yes, the controller 75 pulses the motor about three times (step 406), then proceeds back to step 376. If the motor is not a two-wire (e.g., if the motor is a three-wire motor), the controller 75 executes a series of three forward-reverse cycles (step 408), then proceeds back to step 376.

[0096] FIG. 33 illustrates a line or pipe break fault operation of the controller 75. During PID control (step 410), the controller 75 determines if a pipe break parameter (e.g., pipe break detection parameter 314 from FIG. 25) is enabled (step 412). The controller 75 continues back to step 410 until the parameter is enabled. If the controller 75 determines that the parameter is enabled at step 412, a timer is incremented (step 414), and the controller 75

determines if the pump is in sleep mode (step 416). If the pump is in sleep mode, the timer is reset (step 418) and the controller 75 reverts back to step 410. If the pump is not in sleep mode, the controller 75, at step 420, determines if the timer has been incremented above a certain number of days (e.g., as set by the number of days without sleep parameter 316). If the timer has not exceeded the set number of days, then the controller 75 proceeds back to step 410. If the timer has exceeded the set number of days, the motor is coasted to a stop and a "possible pipe break" fault message is displayed (step 422), causing the drive 10 to be stopped (step 424).

[0097] FIG. 34 illustrates a dry run detection operation of the controller 75. During PID control (step 426), the controller 75 determines, at step 428, if the frequency output to the motor is greater than a frequency preset value (e.g., about 30 Hz). If so, a timer is reset (step 430) and the controller 75 reverts back to step 426. If the frequency is under the frequency preset value, the controller 75 then determines, at step 432, if the pressure is greater than a pressure preset value (e.g., about 0.07 MPa (10 PSI)). If so, the timer is reset (step 430) and the controller 75 reverts back to step 426. If the pressure is under 0.07 MPa (10 PSI), the timer is incremented (step 434) and the controller 75 determines if the timer has reached 15 seconds (step 436). If not, the controller 75 reverts back to step 426. However, if the timer has reached 15 seconds, the controller 75 determines that a dry run has occurred and executes a dry run fault operation (step 438). The preset value in step 428 can be checked to ensure the motor 11 is operating at a normal operating frequency (e.g., above 30 Hz).

[0098] FIG. 35 illustrates a dry run fault operation of the controller 75. The controller 75 can proceed to step 440 if step 438 of FIG. 34 was reached. From step 440, the controller 75 can check if a reset counter value is less than a set value (e.g., the value set under the number of resets parameter 320 of FIG. 26) at step 442. If the reset counter is not less than the set value, the controller 75 can update a fault log (step 444), coast the motor to a stop and display a "Dry Run" fault message (step 446), so that the drive 10 is stopped (step 448). If, at step 442, the reset counter is less than the set value, the reset counter is incremented (step 450) and the fault log is updated (step 452). The controller 75 can then coast the motor to a stop and display a "Dry Run - Auto Restart Pending" fault message (step 454), then start a fault timer (step 456), and continuously check if the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 (step 458) or if a timer has exceeded a time value (step 460). The time value can be the auto reset delay parameter 318 (shown in FIG. 26) set by the user. If the user presses the fault reset button 64, the controller 75 will proceed from step 458 to step 462 and clear the fault message displayed, then stop the drive 10 (step 448). If the timer exceeds the time value, the controller 75 will proceed from step 460 to step 464 and clear the fault message displayed, then restart the drive 10 in PID mode (step 466).

[0099] FIG. 36 illustrates a jam fault operation of the controller 75. When a jam has been detected (step 468), the fault log is updated (step 470). After step 470, the motor is coasted to a stop and a "Foreign Object Jam" fault message is displayed (step 472), then the drive 10 is stopped (step 474).

[0100] FIG. 37 illustrates an overtemperature fault operation of the controller 75. When the drive 10 is powered (step 476), the controller 75 determines if the power module temperature is too high (step 478), for example, using the overheat prevention operation in FIG. 30. If the power module temperature is not too high, the fault is cleared (step 480) and the controller 75 reverts back to step 476. If the power module temperature is too high, the fault log is updated (step 482), the motor is coasted to a stop and a "Drive Temp - Auto Restart Pending" fault message is displayed (step 484), and a fault timer is incremented (step 486). The controller 75 then continuously determines if the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 (step 488) until the timer has been incremented past a value (step 490). If the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 or if the timer has incremented past the value, the controller 75 proceeds from step 488 or step 490, respectively, to step 492 to check if the fault condition is still present. If the fault condition is still present, the controller 75 reverts back to step 486. If the fault condition is not present, the controller 75 clears the fault (step 480) and reverts back to step 476.

[0101] The motor 11 and pump 12 combination can satisfy typical performance requirements as specified by the pump manufacturer while maintaining current under service factor amps as specified for the motor 11. Performance can match that of a typical capacitor start/capacitor run control box for each motor HP offering. If the motor 11 performs outside of such specifications, the controller 75 can generate a fault and stop the motor 11. For example, FIG. 38 illustrates an overcurrent fault operation of the controller 75. When the drive 10 is powered (step 494), the controller 75 determines if there is a high current spike (step 496), for example, using the overcurrent prevention operation of FIG. 31. If there is no high current spike, the fault is cleared (step 498) and the controller 75 reverts back to step 494. If there is a high current spike, the fault log is updated (step 500), the motor is coasted to a stop and a "Motor High Amps - Auto Restart Pending" fault message is displayed (step 502), and a fault timer is incremented (step 504). The controller 75 then continuously determines if the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 (step 506) until the timer has been incremented past a value (step 508). If the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 or if the timer has incremented past the value, the controller 75 proceeds from step 506 or step 508, respectively, to step 510 to check if the fault condition is still present. If the fault condition is still present, the controller 75 reverts back to step 504. If the fault condition is not present, the controller 75 clears the fault (step 498) and reverts back to step 494.

[0102] FIG. 39 illustrates an overvoltage fault opera-

tion of the controller 75. When the drive 10 is powered (step 512), the controller 75 determines if a maximum bus voltage has been exceeded (step 514). If the bus voltage has not exceeded the maximum value, the fault is cleared (step 516) and the controller 75 reverts back to step 512. If the bus voltage has exceeded the maximum value, the fault log is updated (step 518), the motor is coasted to a stop and an "Over Voltage - Auto Restart Pending" fault message is displayed (step 520), and a fault timer is incremented (step 522). The controller 75 then continuously determines if the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 (step 524) until the timer has been incremented past a value (step 526). If the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 or if the timer has incremented past the value, the controller 75 proceeds from step 524 or step 526, respectively, to step 528 to check if the fault condition is still present. If the fault condition is still present, the controller 75 reverts back to step 522. If the fault condition is not present, the controller 75 clears the fault (step 516) and reverts back to step 512.

[0103] FIG. 40 illustrates an internal fault operation of the controller 75. When the drive 10 is powered (step 530), the controller 75 determines if any internal voltages are out of range (step 532). If the internal voltages are not out of range, the fault is cleared (step 534) and the controller 75 reverts back to step 530. If the internal voltages are out of range, the fault log is updated (step 536), the motor is coasted to a stop and an "Internal Fault - Auto Restart Pending" fault message is displayed (step 538), and a fault timer is incremented (step 540). The controller 75 then continuously determines if the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 (step 542) until the timer has been incremented past a value (step 544). If the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 or if the timer has incremented past the value, the controller 75 proceeds from step 542 or step 544, respectively, to step 546 to check if the fault condition is still present. If the fault condition is still present, the controller 75 reverts back to step 540. If the fault condition is not present, the controller 75 clears the fault (step 534) and reverts back to step 530.

[0104] FIG. 41 illustrates a ground fault operation of the controller 75. When the drive 10 is powered (step 548), the controller 75 continuously determines if there is current flow between an earth, or ground, lead and any motor lead (step 550). If so, the fault log is updated (step 552), the motor is coasted to a stop and a "Ground Fault" fault message is displayed (step 554), and the drive 10 is stopped (step 556).

[0105] FIG. 42 illustrates an open transducer fault operation of the controller 75. While in PID mode (step 558), the controller 75 determines if a current measured at the transducer input is less than a value, such as 2 milliamps (step 560). If the current is not less than the value, the controller 75 reverts back to step 558. If the current is less than the value, the fault log is updated (step 562), the motor is coasted to a stop and an "Open Transducer - Auto Restart Pending" fault message is displayed (step 564), and a fault timer is incremented (step 566). The

controller 75 then continuously determines if the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 (step 568) until the timer has been incremented past a value (step 570). If the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 or if the timer has incremented past the value, the controller 75 proceeds from step 568 or step 570, respectively, to step 572 to check if the fault condition is still present. If the fault condition is still present, the controller 75 reverts back to step 566. If the fault condition is not present, the controller 75 reverts back to step 558.

[0106] FIG. 43 illustrates a shorted transducer fault operation of the controller 75. While in PID mode (step 574), the controller 75 determines if a current measured at the transducer input is greater than a value, such as 25 milliamps (step 576). If the current is not greater than the value, the controller 75 reverts back to step 574. If the current is greater than the value, the fault log is updated (step 578), the motor is coasted to a stop and a "Shorted Transducer - Auto Restart Pending" fault message is displayed (step 580), and a fault timer is incremented (step 582). The controller 75 then continuously determines if the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 (step 586) until the timer has been incremented past a value (step 588). If the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 or if the timer has incremented past the value, the controller 75 proceeds from step 586 or step 588, respectively, to step 590 to check if the fault condition is still present. If the fault condition is still present, the controller 75 reverts back to step 582. If the fault condition is not present, the controller 75 reverts back to step 574.

[0107] FIGS. 44A-44B illustrate a multiple faults operation of the controller 75. Referring to FIG. 44A, when the drive 10 is powered (step 592), the controller 75 continuously determines if a fault has occurred (step 594). If a fault has occurred, a counter is incremented (step 596) and the controller 75 determines if the counter has reached a value, such as ten (step 598). If the counter has reached the value, the motor is coasted to a stop and a "Multiple Faults" fault message is displayed (step 600), and the drive 10 is stopped (step 602). The steps of FIG. 44B serve to provide a time frame for which the counter can reach the value. When the drive 10 is powered (step 592), the controller 75 continuously determines if the counter (i.e., the counter in step 596 of FIG. 44A) has been incremented (step 604). If so, a timer is incremented (step 606). The controller 75 continues to increment the timer as long as the counter is above zero until the timer reaches a value, such as thirty minutes (step 608). Once the timer has reached the value, the counter is decremented and the timer is reset (step 610).

[0108] FIG. 45 illustrates an undervoltage fault operation of the controller 75. When the drive 10 is powered (step 612), the controller 75 determines if the bus voltage is below a minimum value (step 614). If the bus voltage is not below the minimum value, the fault is cleared (step 616) and the controller 75 reverts back to step 612. If the bus voltage is below the minimum value, the fault log is updated (step 618), the motor is coasted to a stop and

an "Under Voltage - Auto Restart Pending" fault message is displayed (step 620), the fault log is saved in memory, such as the device's electrically erasable programmable read-only memory, or EEPROM (step 622) and a fault timer is incremented (step 624). The controller 75 then continuously determines if the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 (step 626) until the timer has been incremented past a value (step 628). If the user has pressed the fault reset button 64 or if the timer has incremented past the value, the controller 75 proceeds from step 626 or step 628, respectively, to step 630 to check if the fault condition is still present. If the fault condition is still present, the controller 75 reverts back to step 624. If the fault condition is not present, the controller 75 clears the fault (step 616) and reverts back to step 612.

[0109] FIG. 46 illustrates a hardware fault operation of the controller 75. When the controller 75 recognizes a hardware error (step 632), the fault log is updated (step 634). After step 634, the motor is coasted to a stop and a "Hardware Error" fault message is displayed (step 636), then the drive 10 is stopped (step 638).

[0110] FIG. 47 illustrates an external fault operation of the controller 75. When the drive 10 is powered (step 640), the controller 75 continuously determines if an external fault parameter is present, for example, from a relay input at the input power terminal block 28 or the digital input/output (I/O) spring terminals 30 (step 642). If so, the controller 75 determines if a digital input is high (step 644). If the digital input is not high, the controller 75 determines if the external fault is active (step 646). If the external fault is not active, the controller 75 reverts back to step 640. If the external fault is active, the controller 75 clears an "external fault" fault message (if it is being displayed) at step 648 and the device's previous state and operation are restored (step 650). If, at step 644, the digital input is high, the fault log is updated (step 652) and the device's current state and operation are saved (step 654). Following step 654, the motor is coasted to a stop and a "External Fault" fault message is displayed (step 656), then the drive 10 is stopped (step 658).

[0111] FIGS. 48-63 are flow charts describing control operations for the control pad 14 according to some embodiments of the invention. FIG. 48 illustrates a pump-out button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the pump-out button 40 is pressed (step 660), the controller 75 first determines if the control pad 14 is locked, or in the password protection mode (step 662). If so, the controller 75 executes a keys locked error operation (step 664). If not, a valve screen 666 is displayed (step 668) asking the user if a valve is open. Once the user chooses if the valve is open or not and presses enter, a valve parameter value is changed (step 670). The controller 75 then determines, at step 672, if the valve parameter value is yes (i.e., if the valve is open). If the valve parameter is not yes (i.e., if the user selected that the valve was not open), a stopped screen is displayed (step 674), indicating that the pump 12 is stopped. If the valve parameter is yes, the controller 75 sets LED indi-

cators 66 on or off accordingly (step 676), displays a status screen 678 (step 680), and runs the pump out operation to drive the motor 11 in the pump out mode (step 682). The status screen 678 can include information about the pump 12, such as motor frequency, pressure, and motor current during the pump out mode.

[0112] FIG. 49 illustrates a pressure preset button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the pressure preset button 42 is pressed (step 684), the controller 75 first determines if the control pad 14 is locked (step 686). If so, the controller 75 executes a keys locked error operation (step 688). If the control pad 14 is not locked, the controller 75 sets the LED indicators 66 on or off accordingly (step 690) and a preset pressure parameter is displayed (step 692). The user can adjust the displayed pressure parameter using the keypad and hit enter to change the value of the preset pressure parameter, changing the pressure set point for the controller 75 (step 694).

[0113] FIG. 50 illustrates a main menu button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the main menu button 44 is pressed (step 696), the controller 75 first determines if the control pad 14 is locked (step 698). If so, the controller 75 executes a keys locked error operation (step 700). If the control pad 14 is not locked, the controller 75 sets the LED indicators 66 on or off accordingly (step 702) and the main menu, as described with respect to FIG. 16, is displayed (step 704).

[0114] FIG. 51 illustrates a fault log button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the fault log button 46 is pressed (step 706), the controller 75 sets the LED indicators 66 on or off accordingly (step 708) and the fault log is displayed, detailing fault history information to the user (step 710).

[0115] FIG. 52 illustrates an enter button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the enter button 56 is pressed (step 712), the controller 75 first determines if the fault log is active (e.g., being displayed) at step 714 or if the stopped status screen is being displayed (step 716). If either step 714 or step 716 is true, the controller 75 executes an invalid key error operation (step 718). If neither the fault log or stopped status screen are being displayed, the controller 75 determines if the control pad 14 is locked (step 720). If so, the controller 75 executes a keys locked error operation (step 722). If the control pad 14 is not locked, the controller 75 determines if the display currently selecting a menu option or a parameter (step 724). If the display is currently selecting a menu option, the controller 75 will enter the selected menu (step 726). If the display is currently selecting a parameter option, the controller 75 determines if the parameter is highlighted (step 728). If the parameter is highlighted, the controller 75 saves the value of the selected parameter and cancels the highlighting of the parameter (step 730). If, at step 728, the parameter is not highlighted, the controller 75 determines if the parameter can be changed with the motor is running and the drive 10 is stopped (step 732). If not, a running error operation is

executed (step 734). If the parameter may be changed, then the selected parameter is highlighted (step 736).

[0116] FIG. 53 illustrates a back button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the back button 54 is pressed (step 738), the controller 75 determines if a status screen is being displayed (step 740). If so, an invalid key error operation is executed (step 742). If a status screen is not being displayed, the controller 75 determines if a line in the display is highlighted (step 744). If so, the new value on the highlighted line is cancelled and the highlighting is cancelled as well (step 746). If, at step 744, there is no highlighted line, the parent, or previous, menu is displayed (step 748).

[0117] FIG. 54 illustrates an up/down button control operation, according to some embodiments. When either the up or down directional button 52 is pressed (step 750), the controller 75 determines if a line in the display is highlighted (step 752). If so, the controller 75 then determines if the auto line fill operation is being executed (step 754). If so, the controller 75 proceeds to the manual line fill operation (step 756), as described with reference to FIG. 9, then scrolls to another value in the display (step 758). If the controller 75 determines that the auto line fill operation is not being executed at step 754, the controller 75 proceeds to step 758 and scrolls to another value in the display. If, at step 752, the controller 75 determines that no line is highlighted, the controller 75 then determines if a menu in the display can be scrolled (step 760). If so, the menu is scrolled (step 762). If not, an invalid key error operation is executed (step 764).

[0118] FIG. 55 illustrates a left/right button control operation, according to some embodiments. When either the left or right directional button 52 is pressed (step 766), the controller 75 determines if a line in the display is highlighted (step 768). If not, an invalid key error operation is executed (step 770). If, at step 768, the controller 75 determines that the line is highlighted, the controller 75 then determines if a curser in the display can be moved (step 772). If so, the curser is moved (step 774). If not, an invalid key error operation is executed (step 776).

[0119] FIG. 56 illustrates a password button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the password button 48 is pressed (step 778), the controller 75 first determines if the control pad 14 is locked (step 780). If not, a status screen is displayed (step 782). If the control pad 14 is locked, the controller 75 sets the LED indicators 66 on or off accordingly (step 784) and executes a keys locked error operation (step 786). If a user then enters a password (step 788), the controller 75 determines if the password is correct (step 790). If the password is correct, any lockable keys are unlocked (step 792) and the status screen is displayed (step 794). If the password is incorrect, an invalid password error operation is executed (step 796), then the status screen is displayed (step 794). In some embodiments, the lockable keys can include the directional buttons 52, the language button 50, the pump-out button 40, the pressure preset button 42, and/or the main menu button 44.

[0120] FIG. 57 illustrates a language button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the language button 50 is pressed (step 796), the controller 75 first determines if the control pad 14 is locked (step 798). If so, the controller 75 executes a keys locked error operation (step 800). If the control pad 14 is not locked, the controller 75 sets the LED indicators 66 on or off accordingly (step 802) and a language parameter is displayed (step 804). The user can change the displayed language using the keypad and hit enter to update the language parameter (step 806).

[0121] FIG. 58 illustrates a status button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the status button 58 is pressed (step 808), the controller 75 sets the LED indicators 66 on or off accordingly (step 810) and determines if a current status screen is being displayed (step 812). If not, the current status screen 814 or 816 is displayed (step 818). If the controller 75, at step 812, determines that the current status screen is being displayed, the current status screen is cleared and a power status screen 820 or 822 is displayed (step 824).

[0122] FIG. 59 illustrates a stop button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the stop button 60 is pressed (step 826), the controller 75 sets the LED indicators 66 on or off accordingly (step 828) and a stopped status screen 830 is displayed (step 832). The controller 75 then stops the drive 10 (step 834), as described with reference to FIG. 10.

[0123] FIG. 60 illustrates an automatic start button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the automatic start button 62 is pressed (step 836), the controller 75 sets the LED indicators 66 on or off accordingly (step 838) and a status screen 840 is displayed (step 842). The controller 75 then runs the automatic line fill operation (step 844), as described with reference to FIG. 8.

[0124] FIG. 61 illustrates a fault reset button control operation, according to some embodiments. When the fault reset button 64 is pressed (step 846), the controller 75 determines if there is an active fault (step 848). If not, the controller 75 executes an invalid key error operation (step 850). If there is an active fault, the controller 75 determines if the fault condition is still present (step 852). If so, the controller 75 stops the drive 10 (step 854), as described with reference to FIG. 10. If not, the controller 75 first clears the fault (step 856), then stops the drive 10 (step 854).

[0125] FIGS. 62A-62D illustrate LED indicator control operations, according to some embodiments. As shown in FIG. 62A, if a fault is active and a restart is pending (step 856), the Fault LED 72 blinks (step 858), and a "Restart Pending" message is displayed (step 860). As shown in FIG. 62B, if a fault is active and the drive 10 is stopped (step 862), the Fault LED 72 blinks (step 864), and a "Drive Stopped" message is displayed (step 866). As shown in FIG. 62C, if a TPM is active and the drive 10 is still running (step 868), the Warning LED 70 is lit (step 870), and a message is displayed describing the

warning (step 872). As shown in FIG. 62D, when the drive 10 is powered up (step 874), the ON LED 68 is lit (step 876).

[0126] FIGS. 63A-63D illustrate error display control operations, according to some embodiments. As shown in FIG. 63A, for the invalid key error operation (step 878), a "Key Error! Invalid Key!" error screen can be displayed (step 880). The controller 75 can display the error screen for a time period, such as 0.9 seconds (step 882), then return the display to the previous screen (step 884). As shown in FIG. 63B, for the keys locked error operation (step 886), an "Error! Press Password Key" error screen can be displayed (step 888). The controller 75 can display the error screen for a time period, such as 0.9 seconds (step 890), then return the display to the previous screen (step 892). As shown in FIG. 63C, for the invalid password error operation (step 894), an "Error! Invalid Password!" error screen can be displayed (step 896). The controller 75 can display the error screen for a time period, such as 0.9 seconds (step 898), then return the display to the previous screen (step 900). As shown in FIG. 63D, for the running error operation (step 902), an "Error! Stop before editing" error screen can be displayed (step 904). The controller 75 can display the error screen for a time period, such as 0.9 seconds (step 906), then return the display to the previous screen (step 908). Various features and advantages of the invention are set forth in the following claims.

Claims

1. A method of controlling a pump (12) driven by a motor (11), the pump (12) in fluid communication with a fluid system, the method comprising:

determining (128) whether an operating frequency of the motor (11) has reached a steady state operating frequency, the steady state operating frequency determined by a controller (75);

monitoring (132, 134) a time after the motor (11) has reached the steady state operating frequency by incrementing a boost delay timer;

causing (136) the pump (12) to temporarily boost a pressure in the fluid system to a temporary boost set point once the motor (11) has reached the steady state operating frequency and the boost delay timer has expired, the temporary boost set point being greater than a pressure set point;

restarting (130) monitoring the time after the motor (11) is no longer operating at the steady state operating frequency by resetting the boost delay timer;

determining (148) whether the temporarily boosted pressure in the fluid system stays above the pressure set point after the pump (12) has

stopped the temporary boost; and
causing (150) the pump (12) to enter a sleep mode when the temporarily boosted pressure stays above the pressure set point after the pump (12) has stopped the temporary boost.

2. The method of claim 1 and further comprising causing the pump (12) to continue normal operation when the temporarily boosted pressure does not stay above the pressure set point after the pump (12) has stopped the temporary boost.

3. The method of claim 2 and further comprising periodically determining whether the motor (11) has reached the steady state operating frequency again.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein determining whether the motor (11) has reached the steady state operating frequency includes determining whether the speed of the motor (11) is steady.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein entering the sleep mode is independent of a well depth.

6. The method of claim 1 and further comprising determining whether the temporarily boosted pressure drops to or below the pressure set point.

7. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:

causing the pump (12) to enter the sleep mode if a pressure in the fluid system does not drop after being temporarily boosted;
modifying a parameter to set a predetermined time period;
determining whether the pump (12) has entered the sleep mode during the predetermined time period; and
shutting down the pump (12) when the pump (12) has not entered the sleep mode during the predetermined time period.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the predetermined time period is up to about fourteen days.

9. The method of claim 7 and further comprising indicating on a display (36) that there has been a pipe break fault.

10. The method of claim 7 and further comprising automatically causing a relay output to be energized when there is a pipe break fault.

11. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:

determining a pressure in the fluid system when the pump (12) starts;
operating the motor (11) in a line fill mode at a

first low frequency for a first time period when the pressure in the fluid system is less than a minimum pressure set point in order to fill the fluid system;

operating the motor (11) in the line fill mode at a second low frequency for a second time period when the pressure in the fluid system is less than the minimum pressure setpoint after the first time period, the second low frequency is higher than the first low frequency; and
operating the motor (11) at a normal frequency after the minimum pressure set point is reached in order to increase the pressure to a normal pressure set point.

12. The method of claim 11 and further comprising automatically operating the motor (11) in the line fill mode unless a manual interrupt feature is enabled.

13. The method of claim 12 and further comprising enabling the manual interrupt feature by manually changing a speed of the motor (11).

14. The method of claim 11 and further comprising manually stopping and starting the motor (11) and then operating the motor (11) in the line fill mode after the motor (11) has been manually stopped and then started again.

15. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:

determining whether the motor (11) is operating below a pre-specified frequency;
determining an actual pressure in the fluid system;
comparing the actual pressure to a preset pressure set point;
resetting a timer when the motor (11) is determined to be operating below the pre-specified frequency and the actual pressure is above the pressure set point;
incrementing the timer when the motor (11) is determined to be operating below the pre-specified frequency and the actual pressure is below the preset pressure set point; and
generating a dry run fault when the pressure set point cannot be achieved before the timer value exceeds a pre-specified time period, when the motor (11) is operating below the pre-specified frequency and the actual pressure is below the preset pressure set point.

Patentansprüche

1. Verfahren zum Steuern einer durch einen Motor (11) angetriebenen Pumpe (12), wobei die Pumpe (12) in Fluidverbindung mit einem Fluidsystem ist, wobei

das Verfahren umfasst:

Bestimmen (128), ob eine Betriebsfrequenz des Motors (11) eine konstante Betriebsfrequenz erreicht hat, wobei die konstante Betriebsfrequenz durch eine Steuerung (75) bestimmt wird;
Überwachen (132, 134) einer Zeit, nachdem der Motor (11) die konstante Betriebsfrequenz erreicht hat, durch Inkrementieren eines Verstärkungsverzögerungszeitgebers;
Veranlassen (136) der Pumpe (12), einen Druck in dem Fluidsystem vorübergehend auf einen vorübergehenden Verstärkungssollwert zu verstärken, sobald der Motor (11) die konstante Betriebsfrequenz erreicht hat und der Verstärkungsverzögerungszeitgeber abgelaufen ist, wobei der vorübergehende Verstärkungssollwert größer als ein Drucksollwert ist;
Neustarten (130) des Überwachens der Zeit, nachdem der Motor (11) nicht mehr bei der konstanten Betriebsfrequenz arbeitet, durch Zurücksetzen des Verstärkungsverzögerungszeitgebers;
Bestimmen (148), ob der in dem Fluidsystem vorübergehend verstärkte Druck über dem Drucksollwert bleibt, nachdem die Pumpe (12) die vorübergehende Verstärkung beendet hat; und
Veranlassen (150) der Pumpe (12), in einen Ruhemodus einzutreten, wenn der vorübergehend verstärkte Druck über dem Drucksollwert bleibt, nachdem die Pumpe (12) die vorübergehende Verstärkung beendet hat.

2. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1 und ferner umfassend Veranlassen der Pumpe (12), einen normalen Betrieb fortzusetzen, wenn der vorübergehend verstärkte Druck nicht über dem Drucksollwert bleibt, nachdem die Pumpe (12) die vorübergehende Verstärkung beendet hat.

3. Verfahren nach Anspruch 2 und ferner umfassend periodisches Bestimmen, ob der Motor (11) wieder die konstante Betriebsfrequenz erreicht hat.

4. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, wobei das Bestimmen, ob der Motor (11) die konstante Betriebsfrequenz erreicht hat, Bestimmen, ob die Drehzahl des Motors (11) konstant ist, umfasst.

5. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, wobei das Eintreten in den Ruhemodus unabhängig von einer Bohrlochtiefe ist.

6. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1 und ferner umfassend Bestimmen, ob der vorübergehend verstärkte Druck auf oder unter den Drucksollwert fällt.

7. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1 und ferner umfassend:

Veranlassen der Pumpe (12), in einen Ruhemodus einzutreten, wenn ein Druck in dem Fluidsystem nicht fällt, nachdem er vorübergehend verstärkt wurde;

Modifizieren eines Parameters, um eine vorbestimmte Zeitdauer einzustellen;

Bestimmen, ob die Pumpe (12) während der vorbestimmten Zeitdauer in den Ruhemodus eingetreten ist; und

Abschalten der Pumpe (12), wenn die Pumpe (12) nicht während der vorbestimmten Zeitdauer in den Ruhemodus eingetreten ist.

8. Verfahren nach Anspruch 7, wobei die vorbestimmte Zeitdauer bis zu ca. vierzehn Tage beträgt.

9. Verfahren nach Anspruch 7 und ferner umfassend Anzeigen auf einer Anzeige (36), dass ein Rohrbruchfehler aufgetreten ist.

10. Verfahren nach Anspruch 7 und ferner umfassend automatisches Veranlassen, dass ein Relaisausgang erregt wird, wenn ein Rohrbruchfehler vorhanden ist.

11. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1 und ferner umfassend:

Bestimmen eines Drucks in dem Fluidsystem, wenn die Pumpe (12) startet;

Betreiben des Motors (11) in einem Leitungsfüllmodus bei einer ersten niedrigen Frequenz für eine erste Zeitdauer, wenn der Druck in dem Fluidsystem kleiner als ein Mindestdrucksollwert ist, um das Fluidsystem zu füllen;

Betreiben des Motors (11) in dem Leitungsfüllmodus bei einer zweiten niedrigen Frequenz für eine zweite Zeitdauer, wenn der Druck in dem Fluidsystem nach der ersten Zeitdauer kleiner als der Mindestdrucksollwert ist, wobei die zweite niedrige Frequenz höher als die erste niedrige Frequenz ist; und

Betreiben des Motors (11) bei einer normalen Frequenz, nachdem der Mindestdrucksollwert erreicht ist, um den Druck auf einen Normaldrucksollwert zu erhöhen.

12. Verfahren nach Anspruch 11 und ferner umfassend automatisches Betreiben des Motors (11) in dem Leitungsfüllmodus, sofern nicht eine manuelle Unterbrechungsfunktion aktiviert ist.

13. Verfahren nach Anspruch 12 und ferner umfassend Aktivieren der manuellen Unterbrechungsfunktion durch manuelles Ändern einer Drehzahl des Motors (11).

14. Verfahren nach Anspruch 11 und ferner umfassend manuelles Stoppen und Starten des Motors (11) und anschließend Betreiben des Motors (11) in dem Leitungsfüllmodus, nachdem der Motor (11) manuell gestoppt und anschließend wieder gestartet wurde.

15. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1 und ferner umfassend:

Bestimmen, ob der Motor (11) unterhalb einer vorab festgelegten Frequenz arbeitet;

Bestimmen eines Druckistwerts in dem Fluidsystem;

Vergleichen des Druckistwerts mit einem voreingestellten Drucksollwert;

Zurücksetzen eines Zeitgebers, wenn bestimmt wird, dass der Motor (11) unterhalb der vorab festgelegten Frequenz arbeitet und der Druckistwerts über dem Drucksollwert liegt;

Inkrementieren des Zeitgebers, wenn bestimmt wird, dass der Motor (11) unterhalb der vorab festgelegten Frequenz arbeitet und der Druckistwerts unterhalb des voreingestellten Drucksollwerts liegt; und

Erzeugen eines Trockenlaufgebers, wenn der Drucksollwert nicht erreicht werden kann, bevor der Zeitgeberwert eine vorab festgelegte Zeitdauer überschreitet, wenn der Motor (11) unterhalb der vorab festgelegten Frequenz arbeitet und der Druckistwerts unterhalb des voreingestellten Drucksollwerts liegt.

Revendications

1. Procédé de commande d'une pompe (12) entraînée par un moteur (11), la pompe (12) étant en communication fluide avec un système de fluide, le procédé comprenant les étapes suivantes:

déterminer (128) si une fréquence de fonctionnement du moteur (11) a atteint une fréquence de fonctionnement de régime permanent, la fréquence de fonctionnement de régime permanent étant déterminée par un dispositif de commande (75);

surveiller (132, 134) un temps après que le moteur (11) ait atteint la fréquence de fonctionnement de régime permanent en incrémentant un temporisateur de retard d'amplification;

amener (136) la pompe (12) à amplifier temporairement une pression dans le système de fluide jusqu'à un point de consigne d'amplification temporaire une fois que le moteur (11) a atteint une fréquence de fonctionnement de régime permanent et que le temporisateur de retard d'amplification a expiré, le point de consigne d'amplification temporaire étant supérieur à un point de consigne de pression;

- redémarrer (130) la surveillance du temps après que le moteur (11) ait cessé de fonctionner à la fréquence de fonctionnement de régime permanent en réinitialisant le temporisateur de retard d'amplification;
déterminer (148) si la pression amplifiée temporairement dans le système de fluide reste au-dessus du point de consigne de pression après que la pompe (12) ait arrêté l'amplification temporaire; et
amener (150) la pompe (12) à entrer dans un mode de veille lorsque la pression amplifiée temporairement reste au-dessus du point de consigne après que la pompe (12) ait arrêté l'amplification temporaire.
2. Procédé selon la revendication 1, et comprenant en outre l'étape consistant à amener la pompe (12) à continuer à fonctionner normalement lorsque la pression amplifiée temporairement ne reste pas au-dessus du point de consigne de pression après que la pompe (12) ait arrêté l'amplification temporaire.
 3. Procédé selon la revendication 2, et comprenant en outre l'étape consistant à déterminer périodiquement si le moteur (11) a à nouveau atteint une fréquence de fonctionnement de régime permanent.
 4. Procédé selon la revendication 1, dans lequel l'étape consistant à déterminer si le moteur (11) a atteint une fréquence de fonctionnement de régime permanent comprend l'étape consistant à déterminer si la vitesse du moteur (11) est constante.
 5. Procédé selon la revendication 1, dans lequel l'étape consistant à entrer dans le mode de veille est indépendante de la profondeur de puits.
 6. Procédé selon la revendication 1, et comprenant en outre l'étape consistant à déterminer si la pression amplifiée temporairement chute à ou en dessous du point de consigne de pression.
 7. Procédé selon la revendication 1, et comprenant en outre les étapes suivantes:
amener la pompe (12) à entrer dans le mode de veille si une pression dans le système de fluide ne chute pas après avoir été temporairement amplifiée;
modifier un paramètre pour régler une période de temps prédéterminée;
déterminer si la pompe (12) est entrée dans le mode de veille pendant la période de temps prédéterminée; et
couper la pompe (12) lorsque la pompe (12) n'est pas entrée dans le mode de veille pendant la période de temps prédéterminée.
 8. Procédé selon la revendication 7, dans lequel la période de temps prédéterminée s'étend jusqu'à environ quatorze jours.
 9. Procédé selon la revendication 7, et comprenant en outre l'indication sur un écran d'affichage (36) qu'il s'est produit une défaillance de rupture de conduite.
 10. Procédé selon la revendication 7, et comprenant en outre l'étape consistant à déclencher automatiquement l'excitation d'une sortie de relais en cas de défaillance de rupture de conduite.
 11. Procédé selon la revendication 1, et comprenant en outre les étapes suivantes:
déterminer une pression dans le système de fluide lorsque la pompe (12) démarre;
actionner le moteur (11) dans un mode de remplissage de lignes à une première basse fréquence pendant une période de temps si la pression dans le système de fluide est inférieure à un point de consigne de pression minimum dans le but de remplir le système de fluide;
actionner le moteur (11) dans un mode de remplissage de lignes à une seconde basse fréquence pendant une seconde période de temps lorsque la pression dans le système de fluide est inférieure au point de consigne de pression minimum après la première période de temps, la seconde basse fréquence étant supérieure à la première basse fréquence; et
actionner le moteur (11) à une fréquence normale une fois que le point de consigne de pression minimum a été atteint dans le but d'augmenter la pression jusqu'à un point de consigne de pression normal.
 12. Procédé selon la revendication 11, et comprenant en outre l'étape consistant à actionner automatiquement le moteur (11) dans le mode de remplissage de lignes à moins qu'une caractéristique d'interruption manuelle soit activée.
 13. Procédé selon la revendication 12, et comprenant en outre l'activation de la caractéristique d'interruption manuelle en changeant une vitesse du moteur (11).
 14. Procédé selon la revendication 11, et comprenant en outre l'arrêt manuel et le démarrage du moteur (11) et ensuite l'actionnement du moteur (11) dans le mode de remplissage de lignes une fois que le moteur (11) a été arrêté manuellement et ensuite démarré à nouveau.
 15. Procédé selon la revendication 1, et comprenant en outre les étapes suivantes:

déterminer si le moteur (11) fonctionne en dessous d'une fréquence préspecifiée;
déterminer une pression réelle dans le système de fluide;
comparer la pression réelle avec un point de consigne de pression prédéterminé;
réinitialiser un temporisateur lorsqu'il est déterminé que le moteur (11) fonctionne en dessous de la fréquence préspecifiée et que la pression réelle est supérieure au point de consigne de pression;
incrémenter le temporisateur lorsqu'il est déterminé que le moteur (11) fonctionne en dessous de la fréquence préspecifiée et que la pression réelle est inférieure au point de consigne de pression; et
générer une défaillance de fonctionnement à sec lorsque le point de consigne de pression ne peut pas être atteint avant que la valeur de temporisateur ait dépassé une période de temps préspecifiée, lorsque le moteur (11) fonctionne en dessous de la fréquence préspecifiée et que la pression réelle est inférieure au point de consigne de pression prédéterminé.

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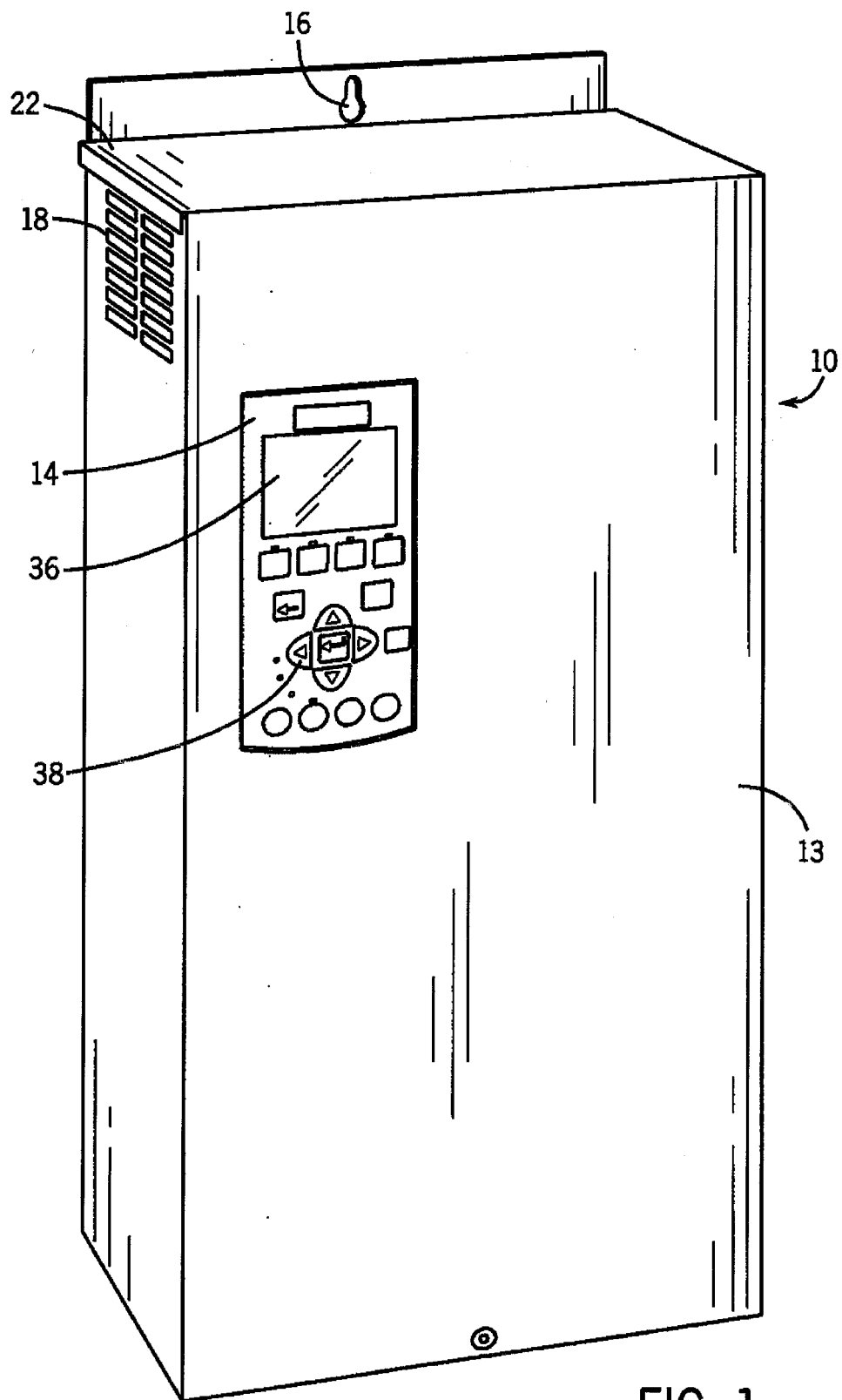


FIG. 1

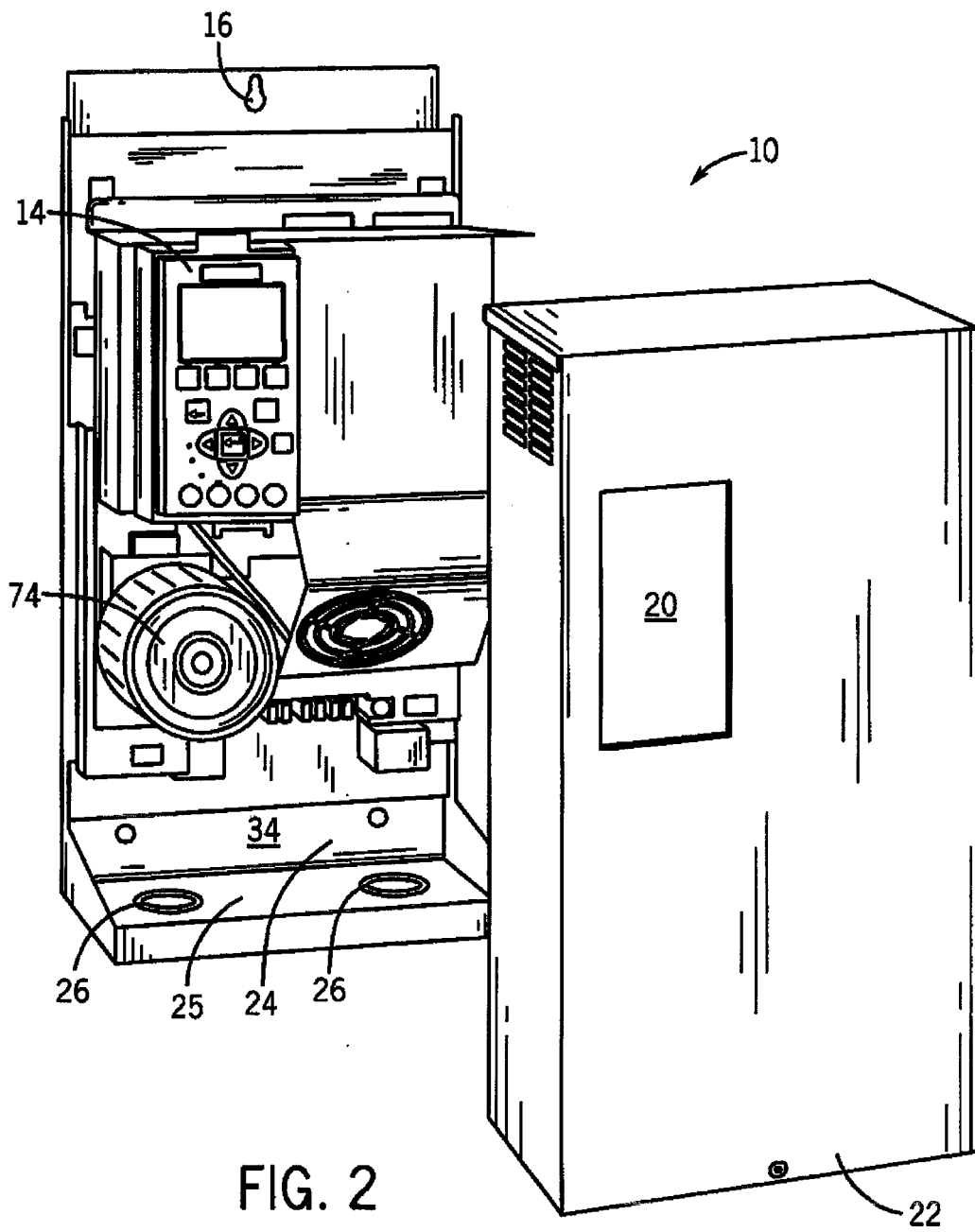


FIG. 2

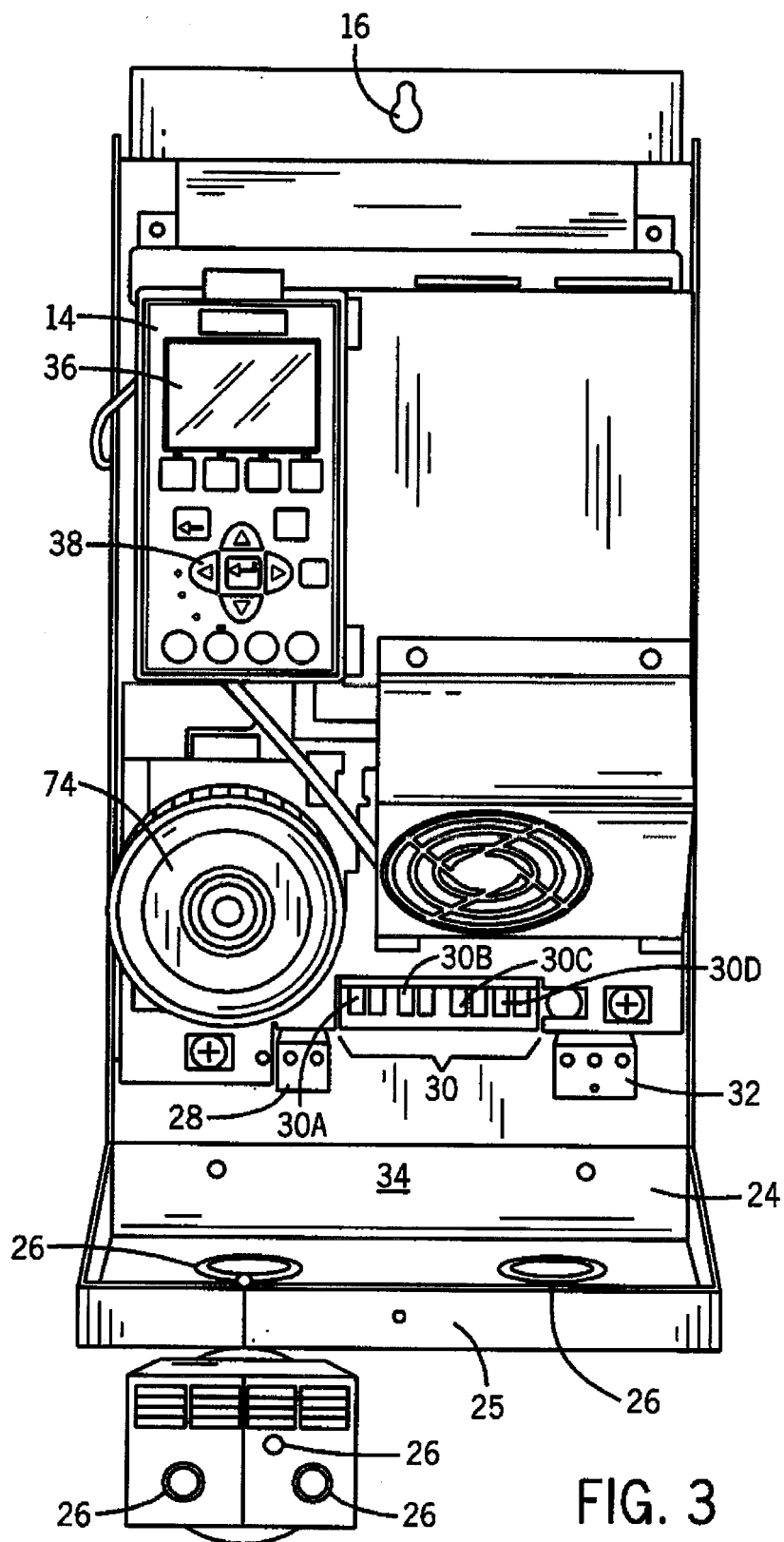
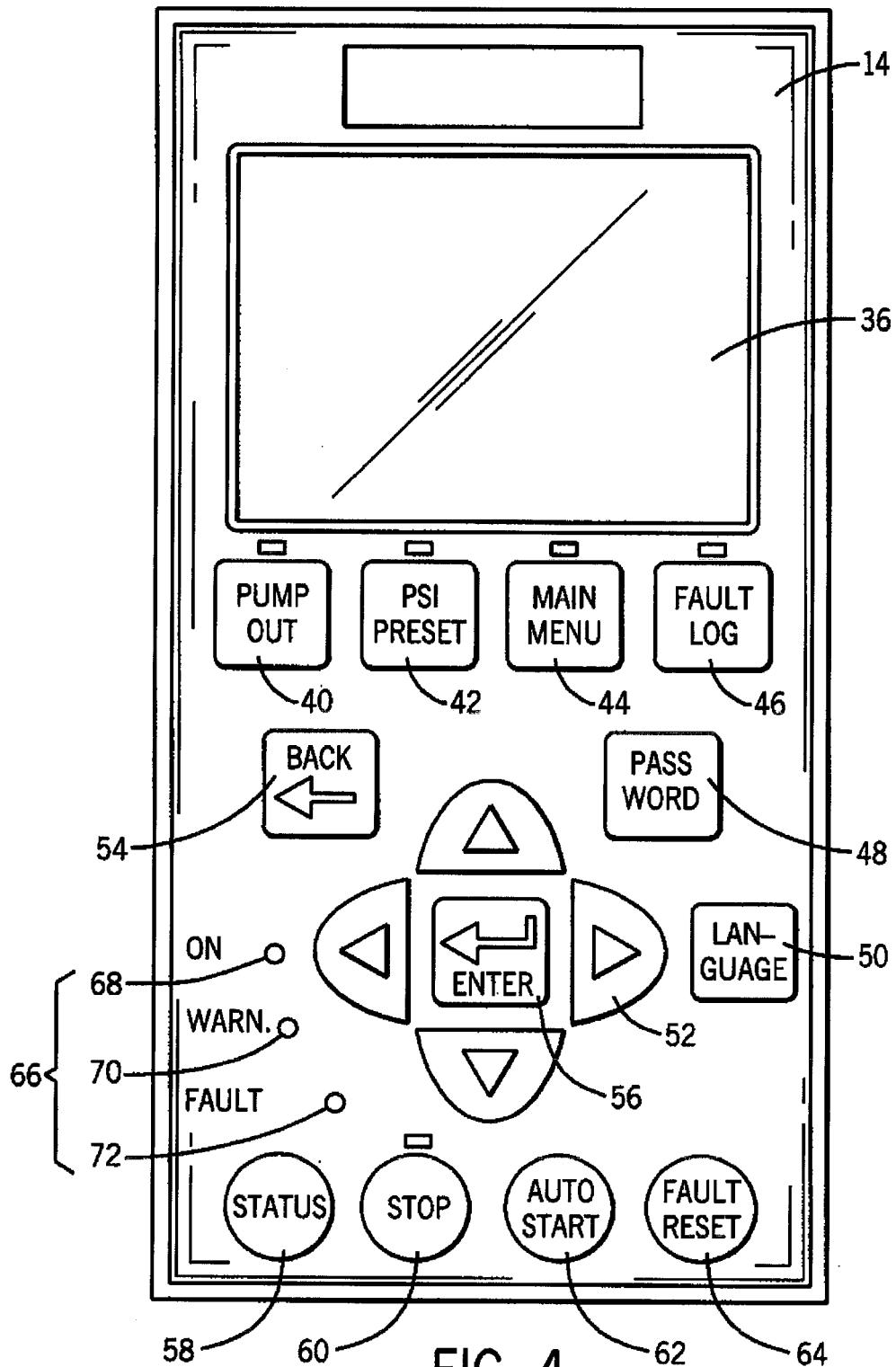


FIG. 3



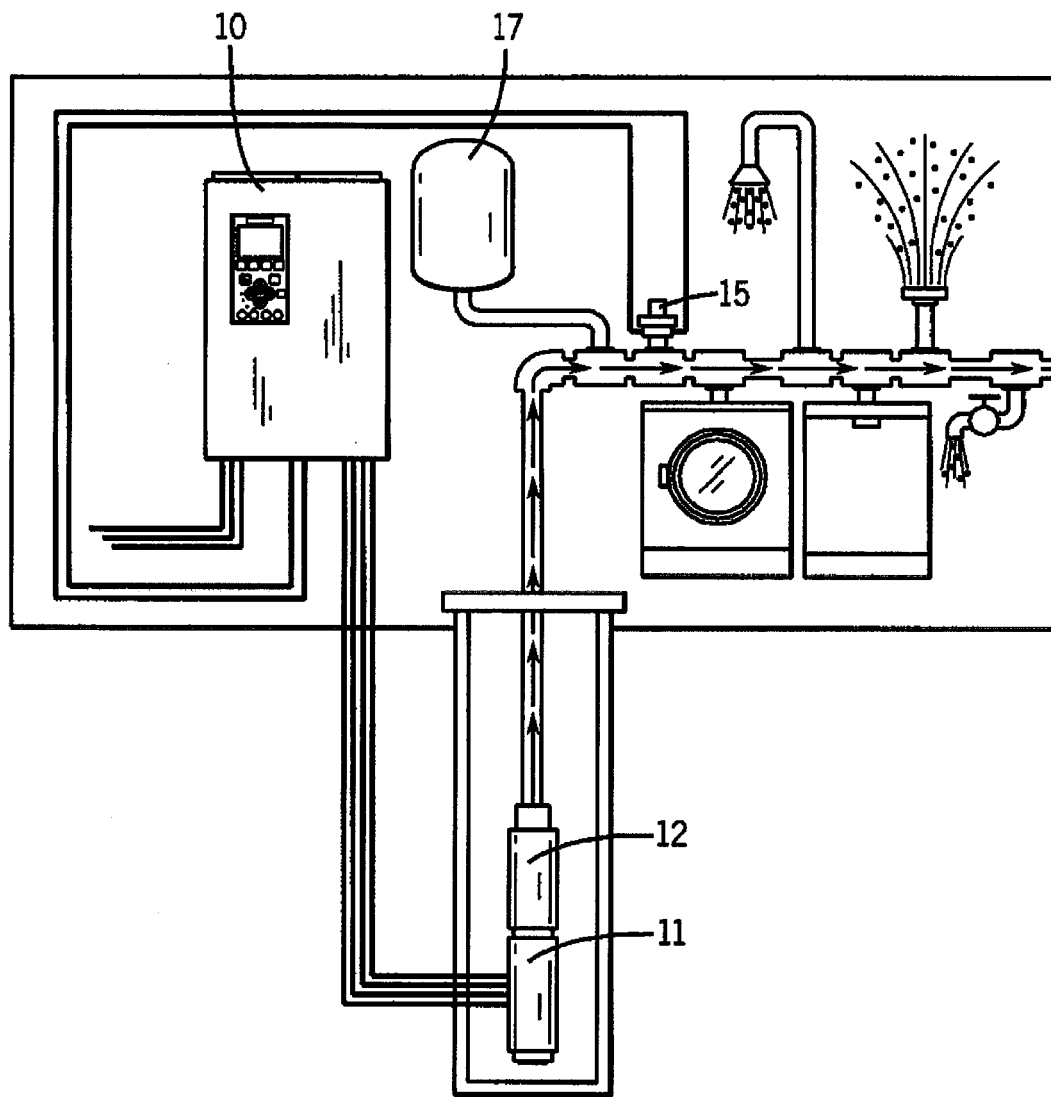


FIG. 5

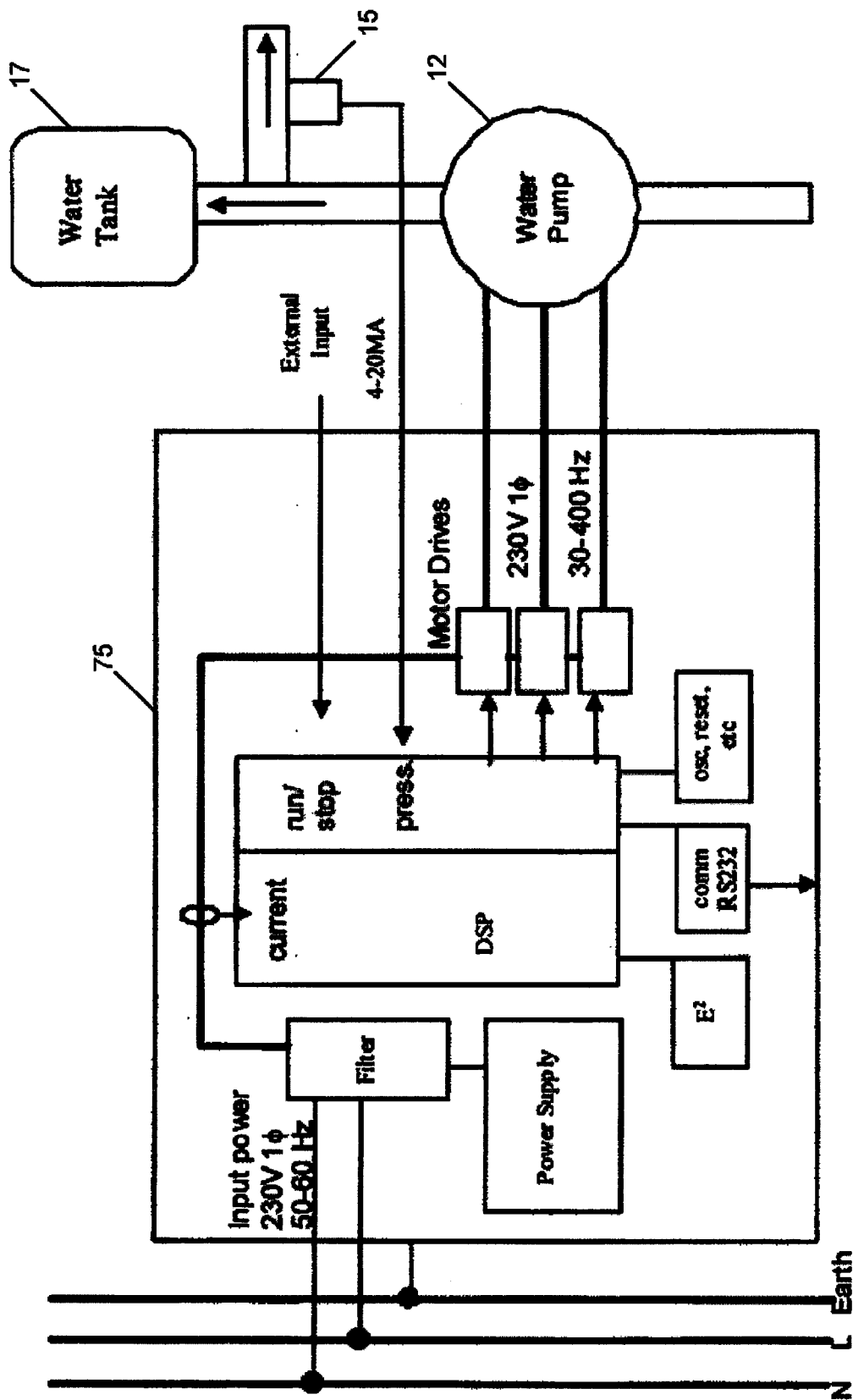


FIGURE 6

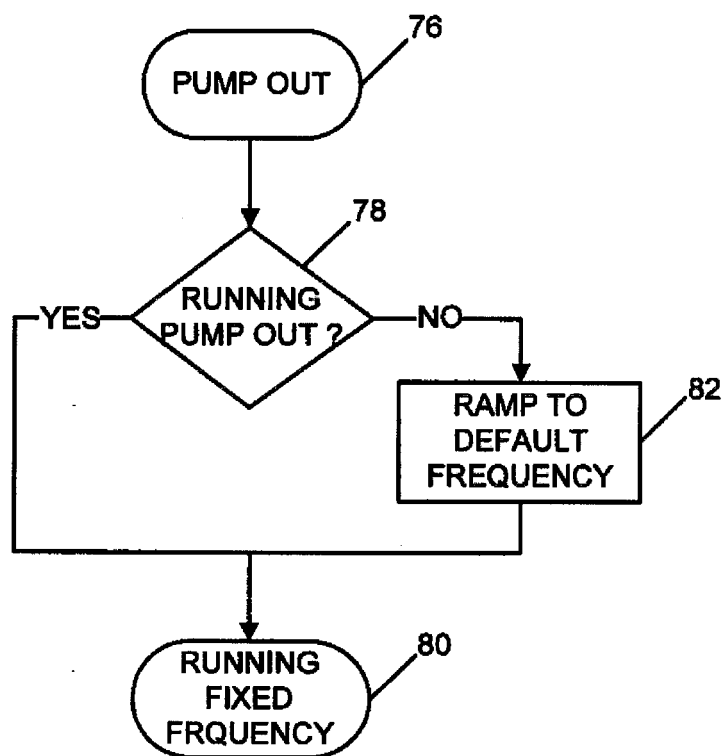


FIGURE 7

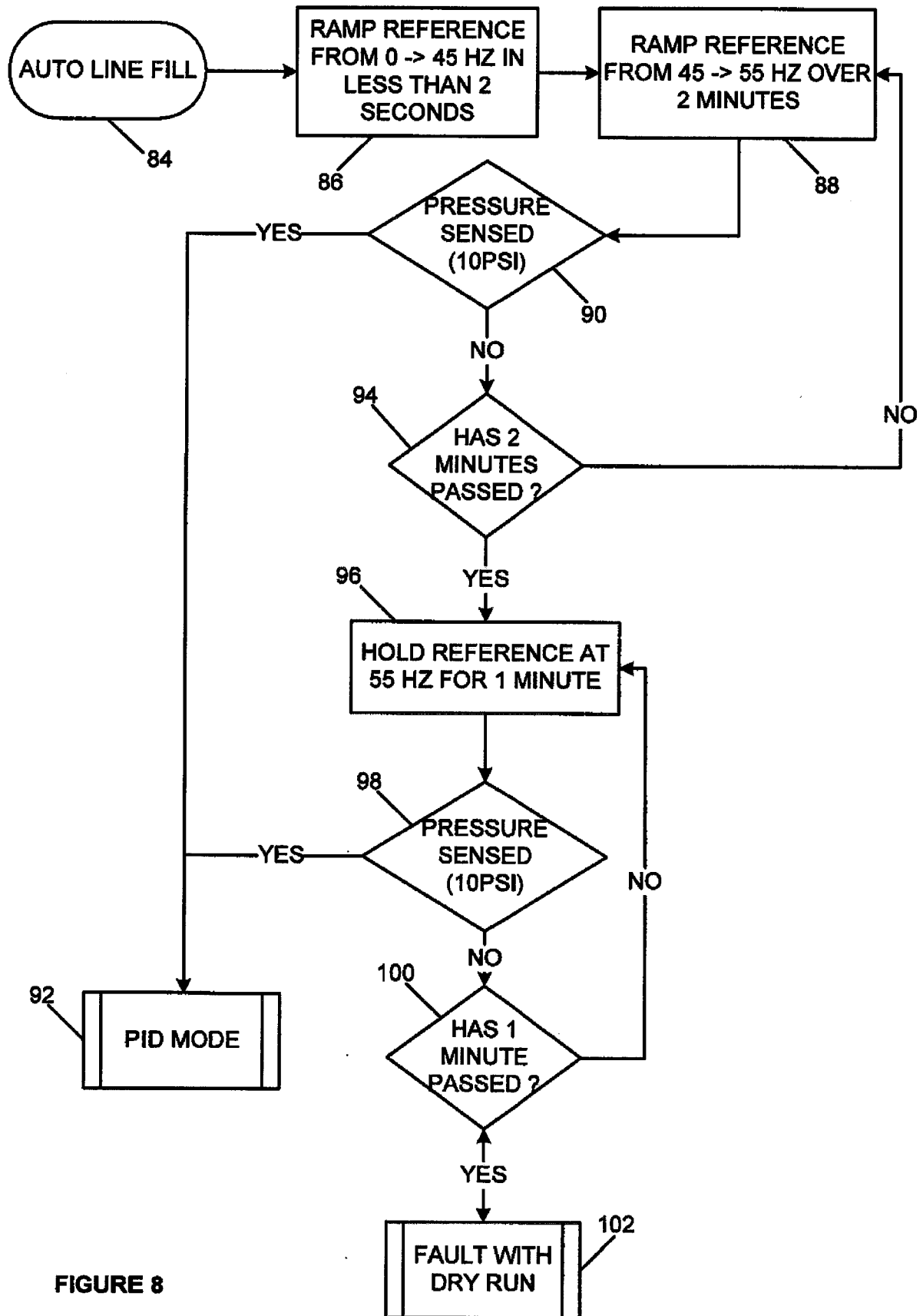


FIGURE 8

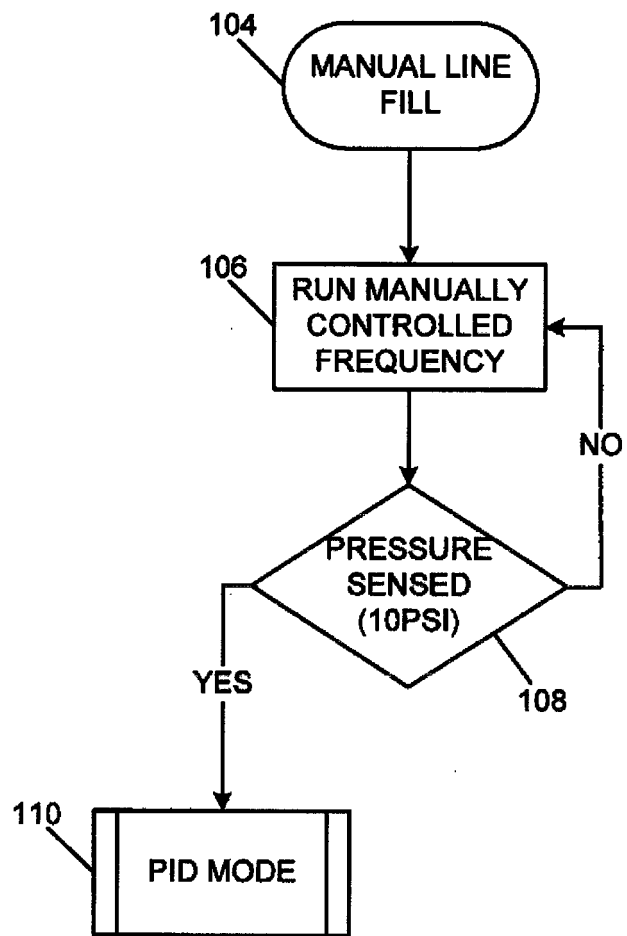


FIGURE 9

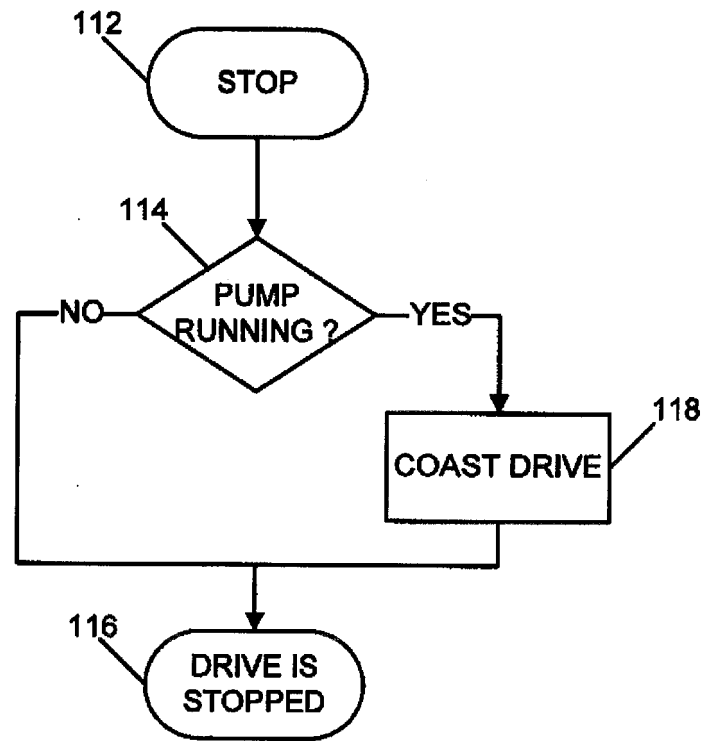


FIGURE 10

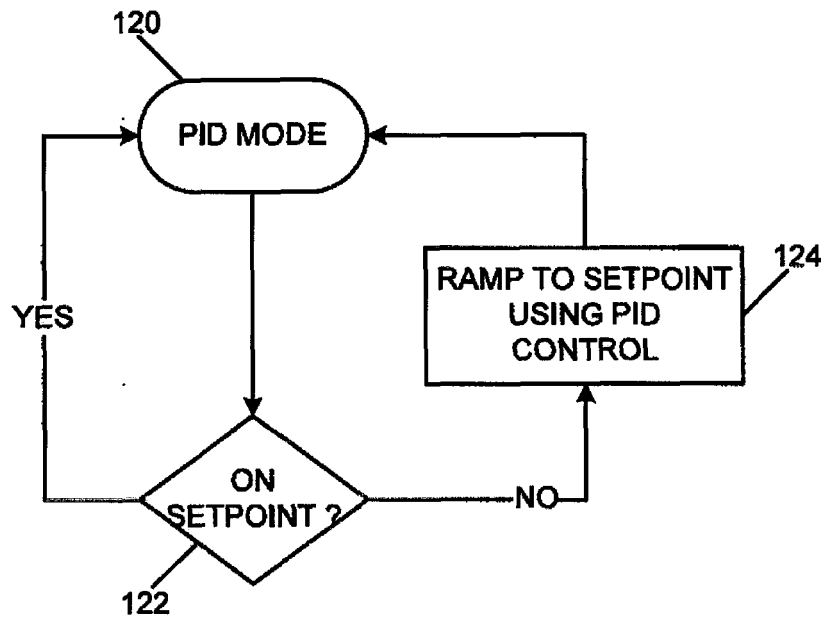


FIGURE 11

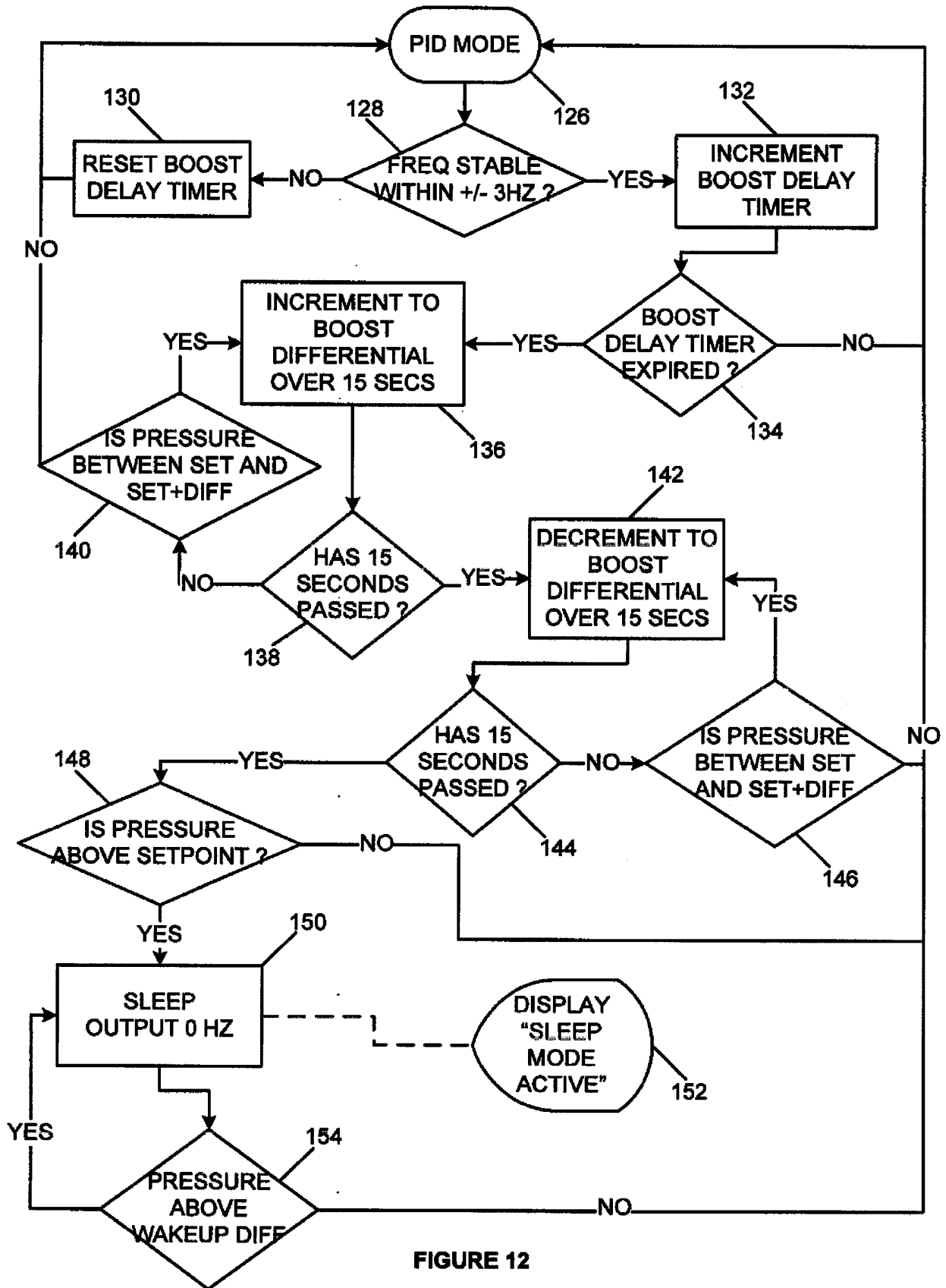


FIGURE 12

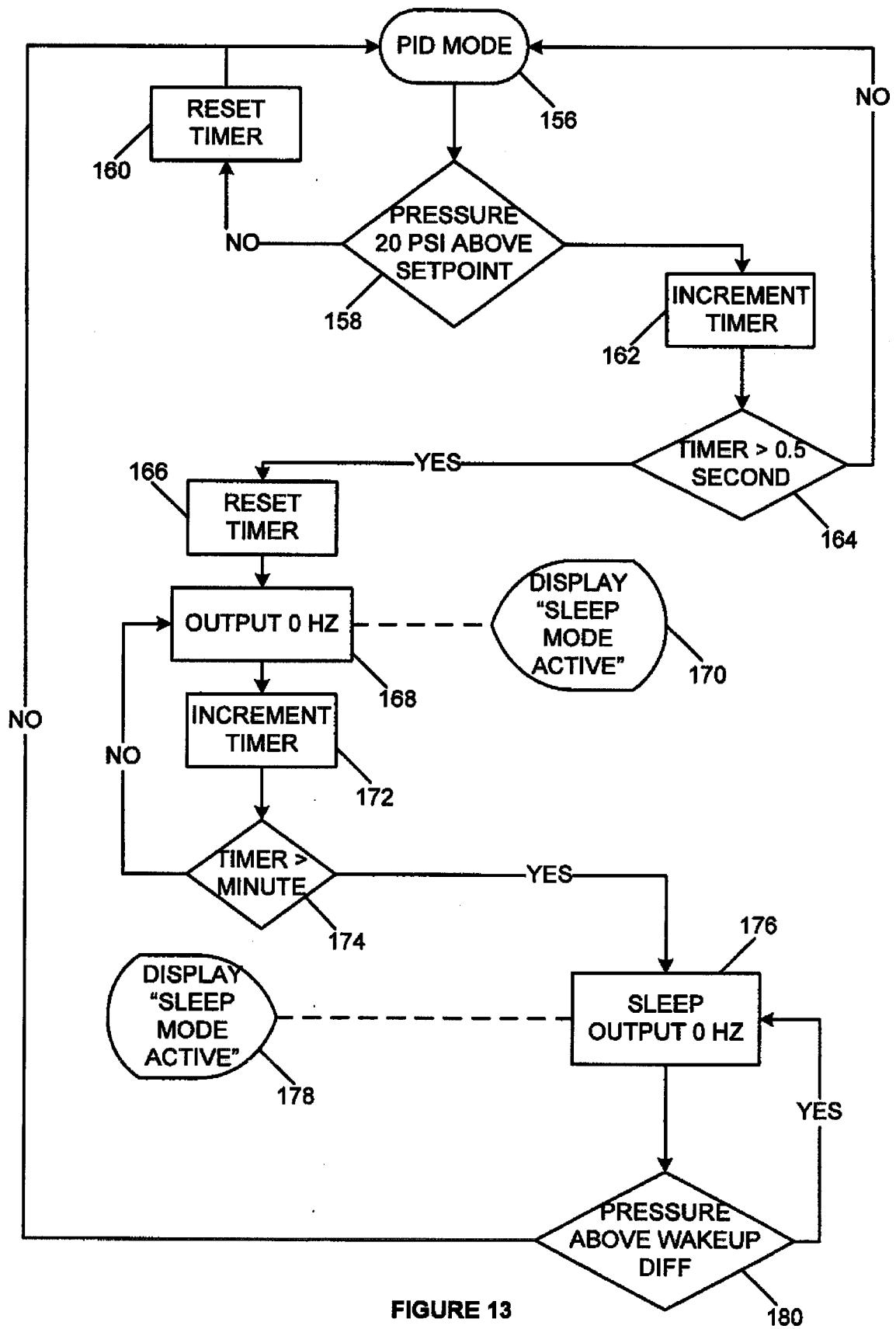


FIGURE 13

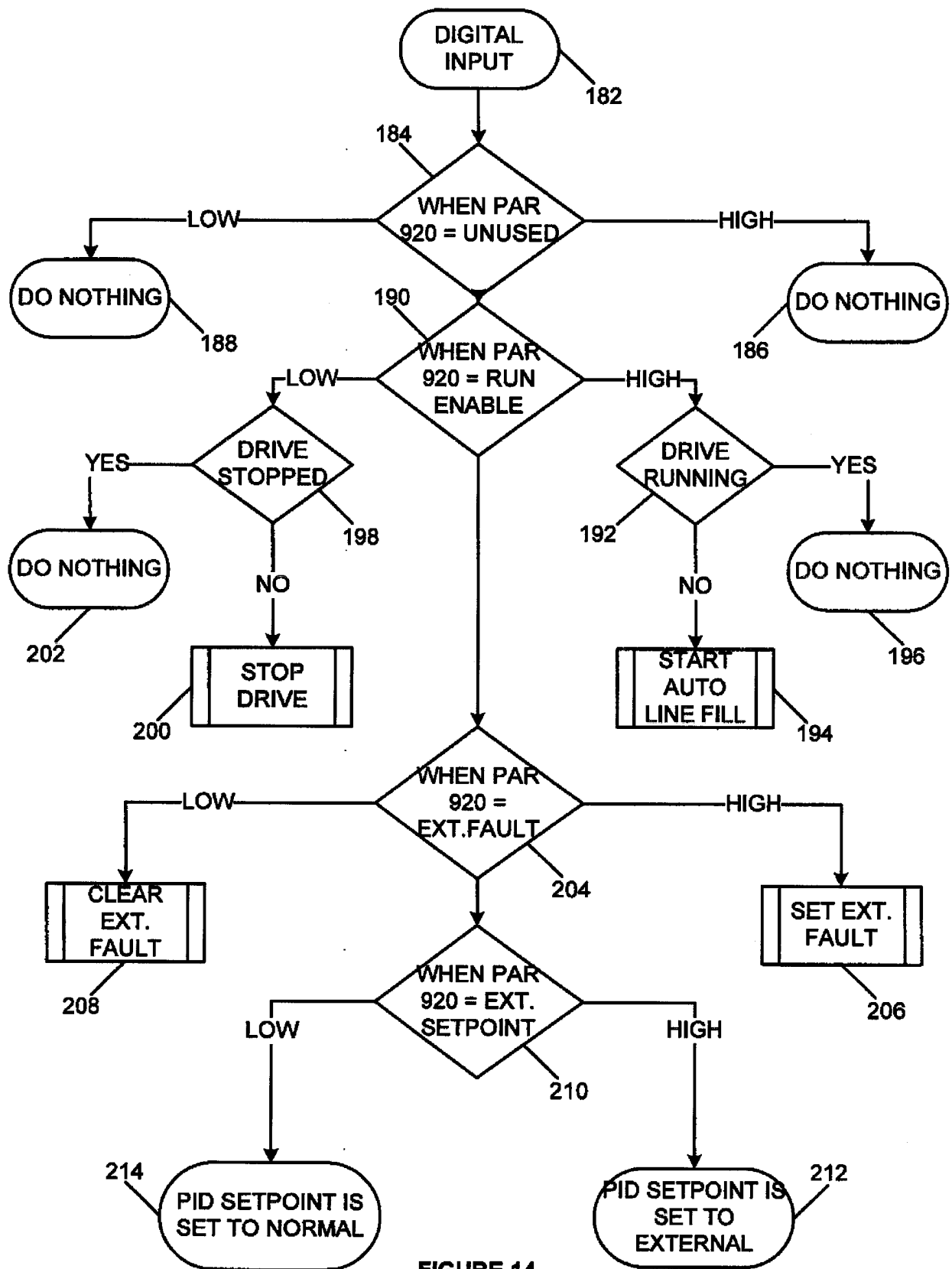


FIGURE 14

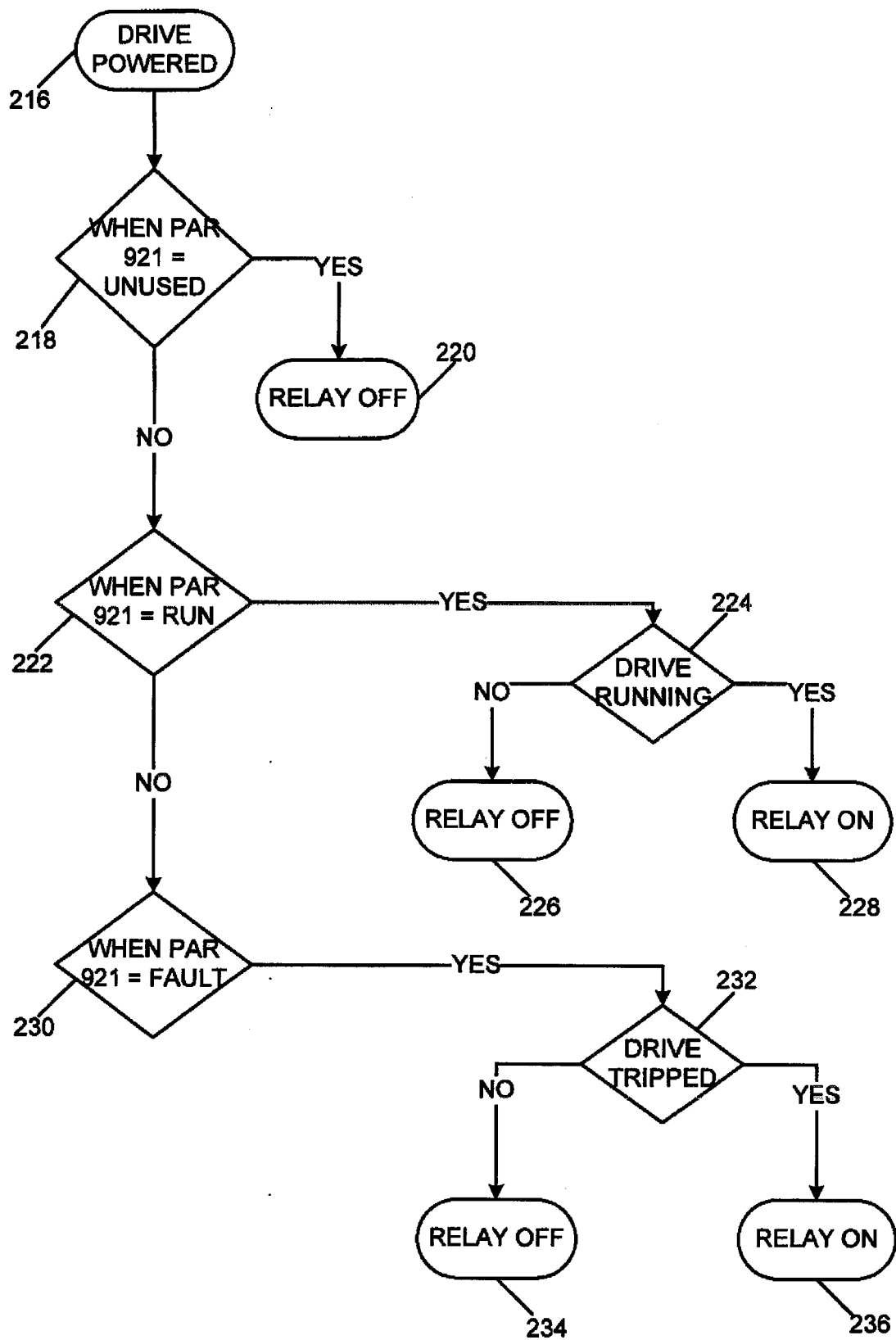


FIGURE 15

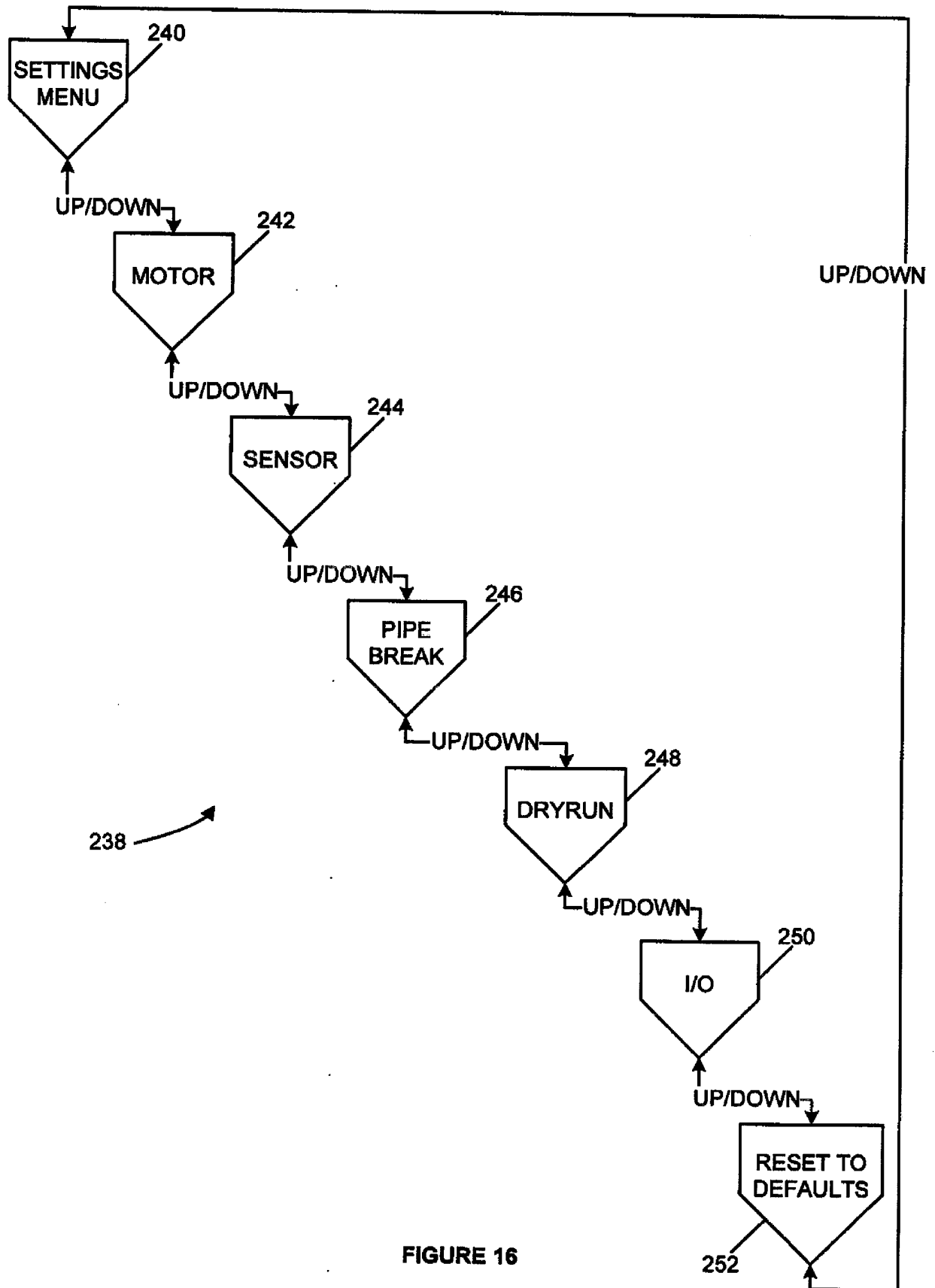


FIGURE 16

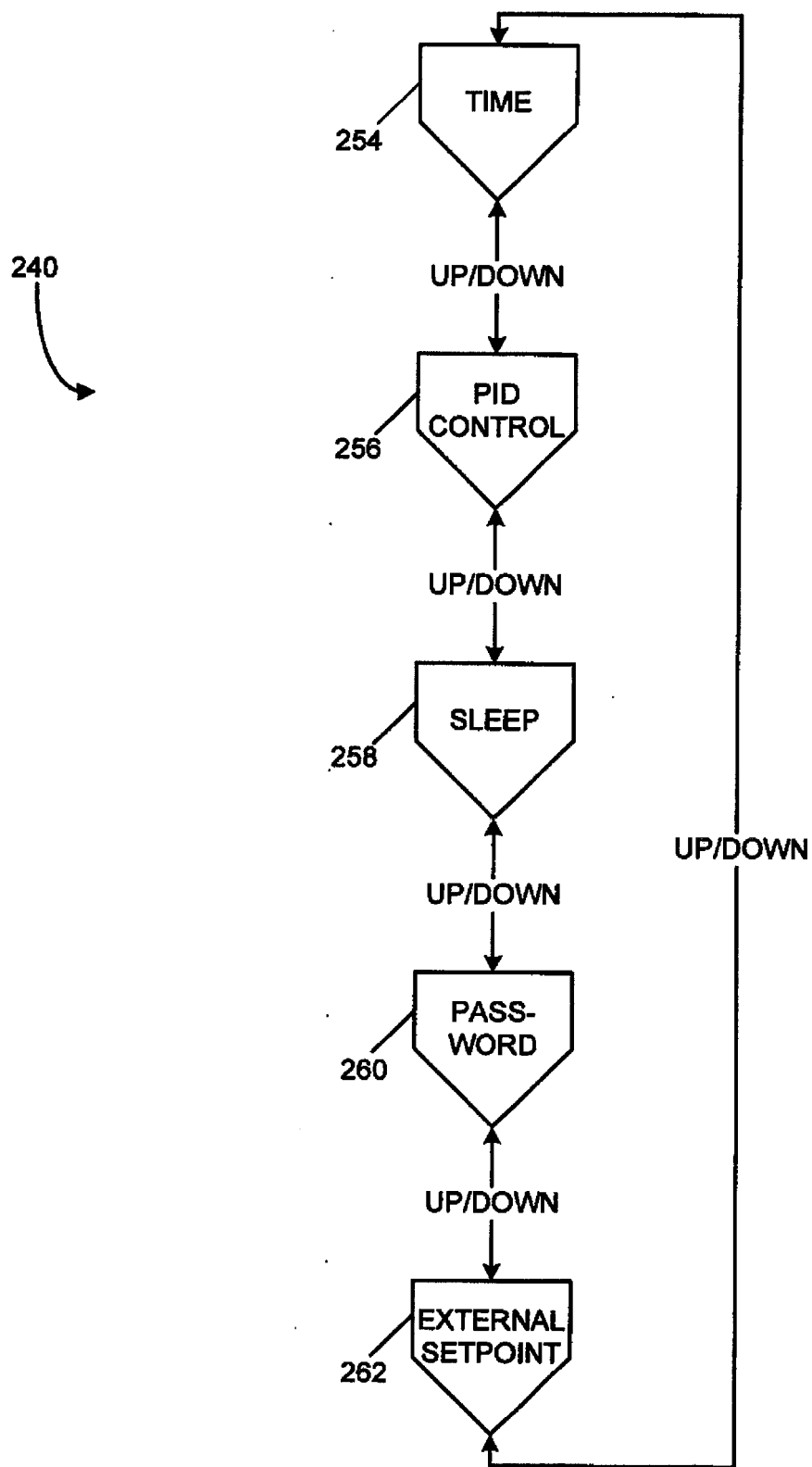


FIGURE 17

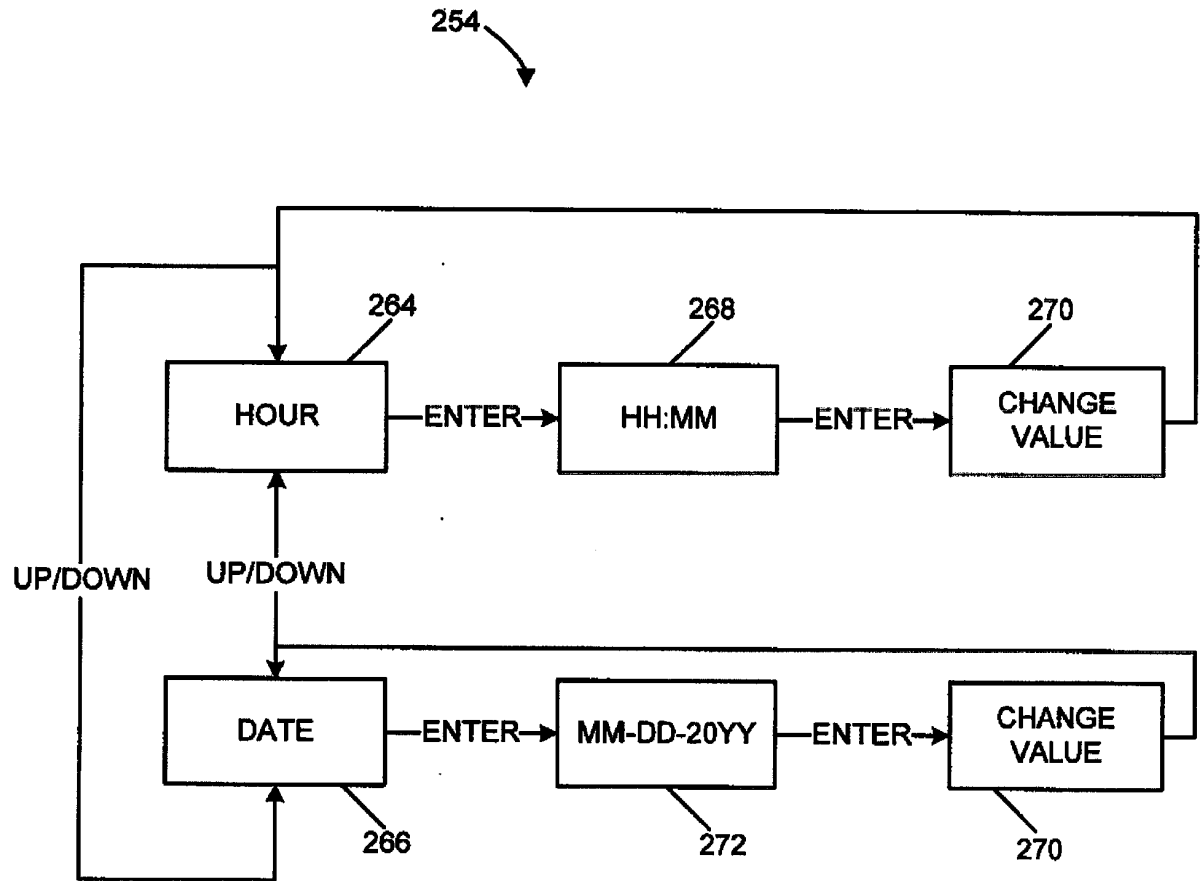


FIGURE 18

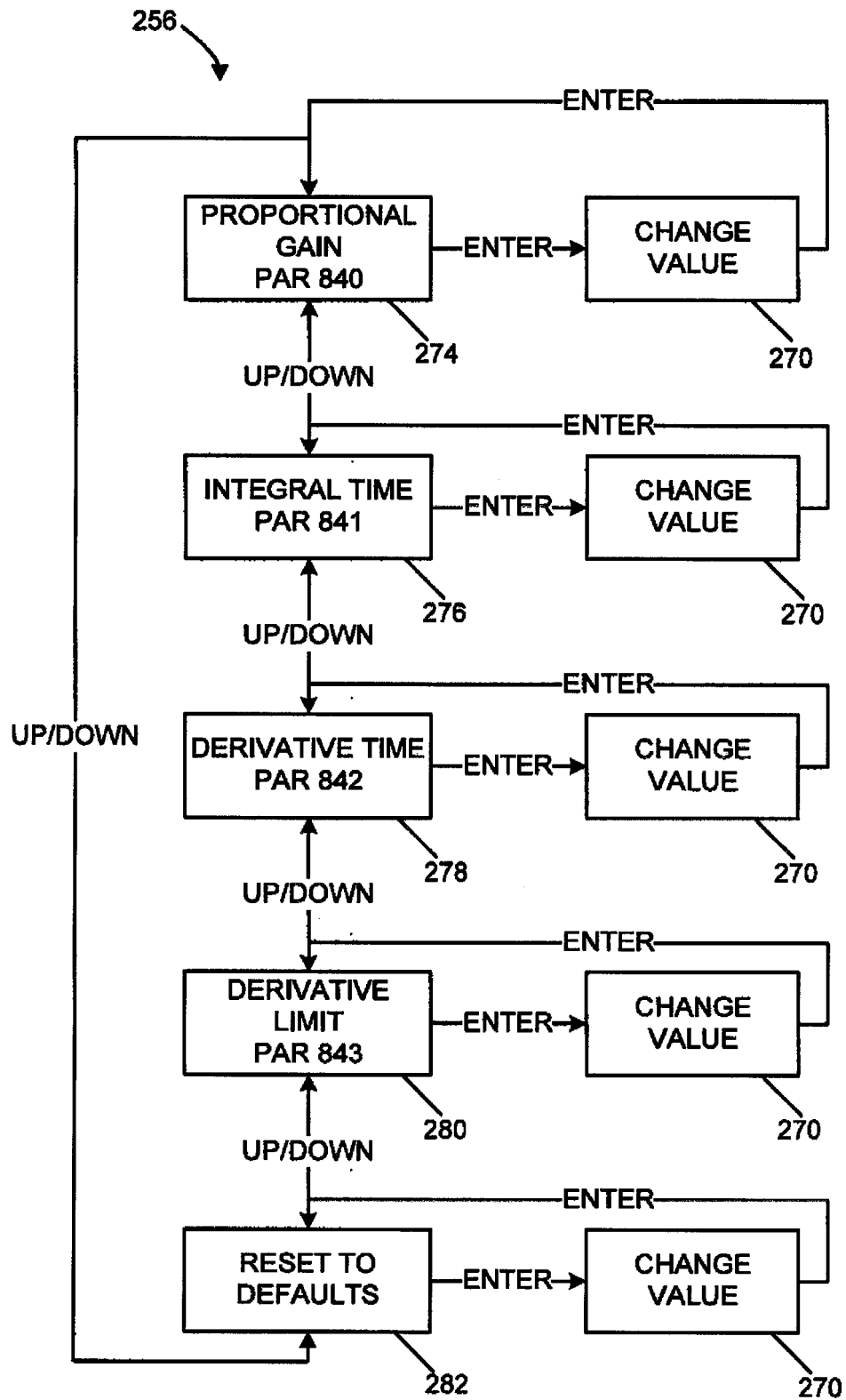


FIGURE 19

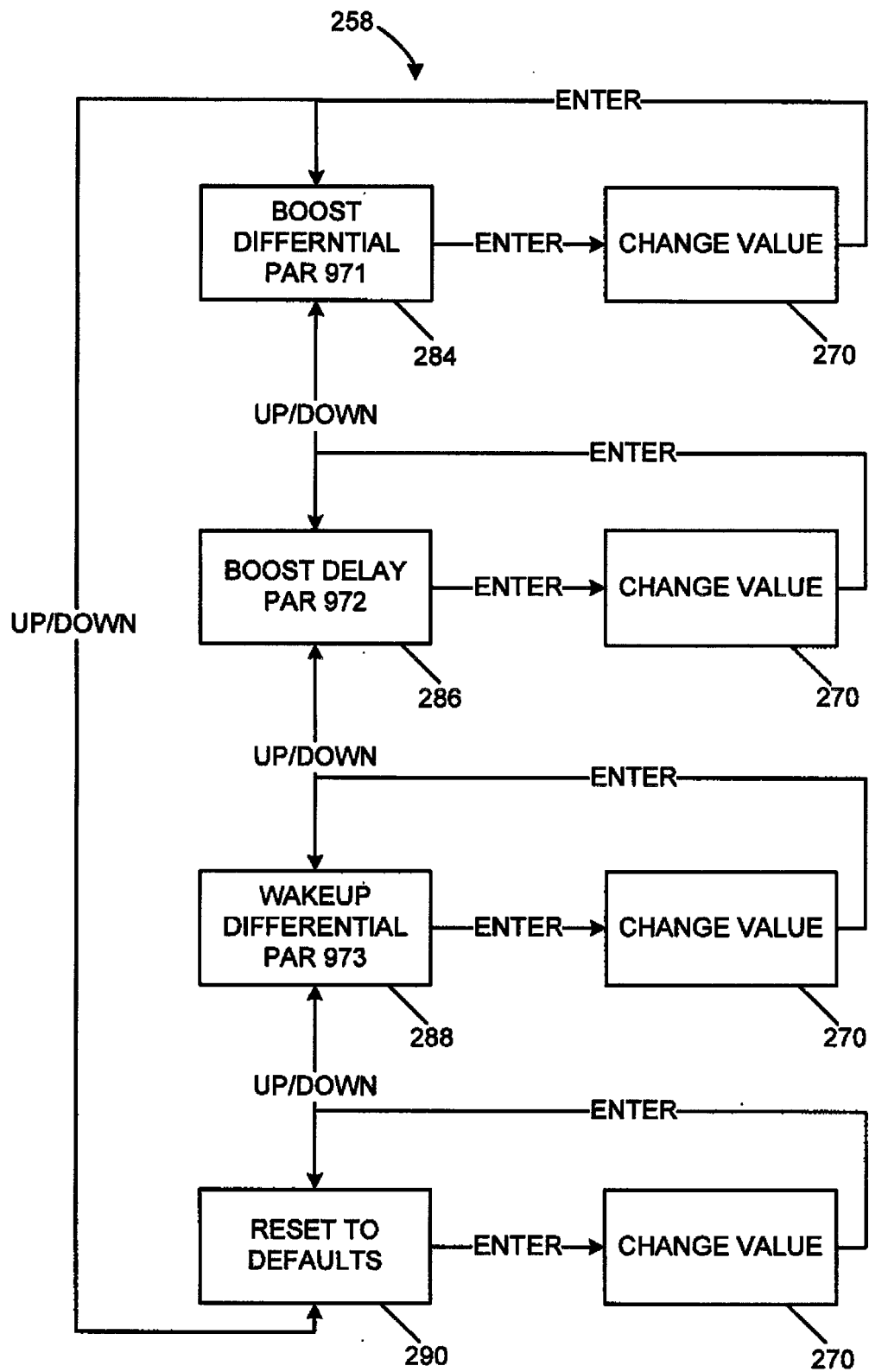


FIGURE 20

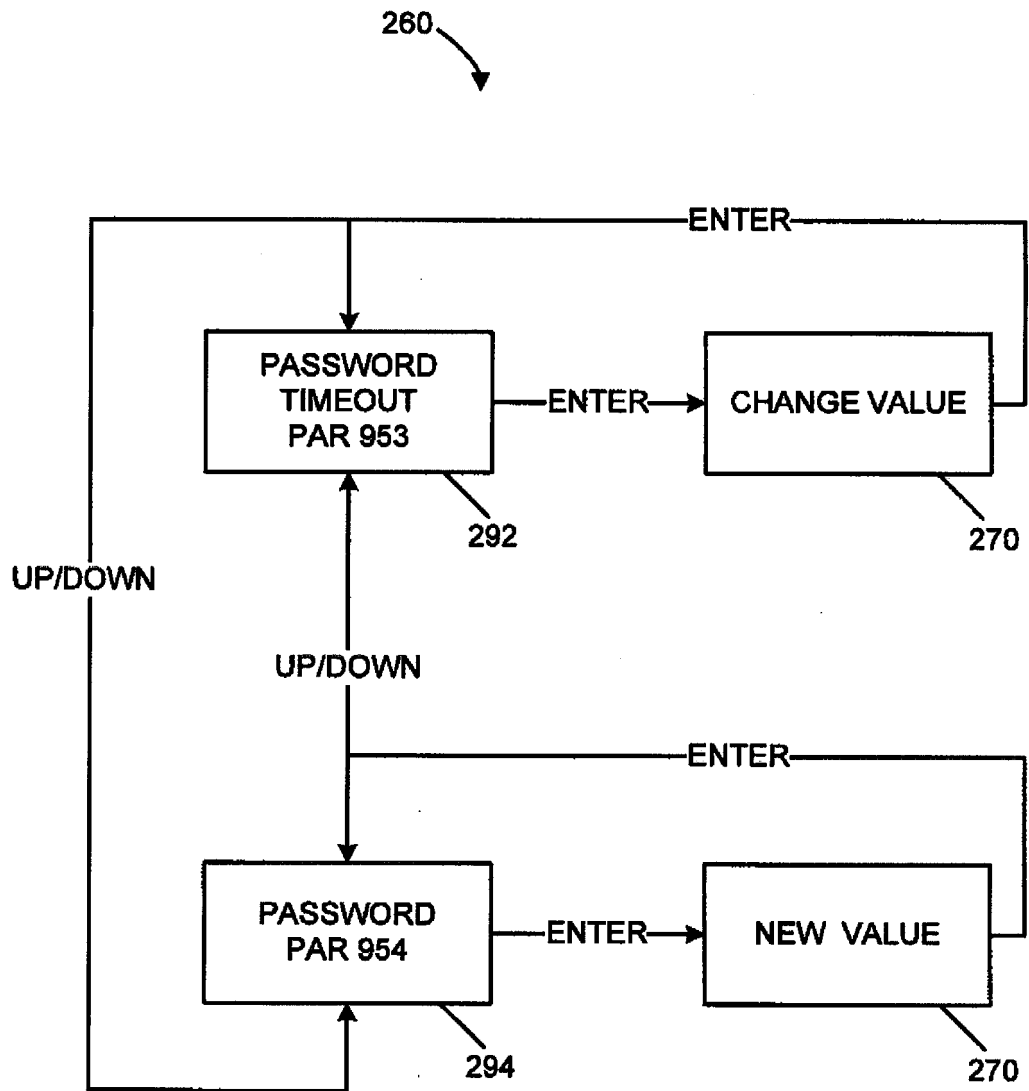


FIGURE 21

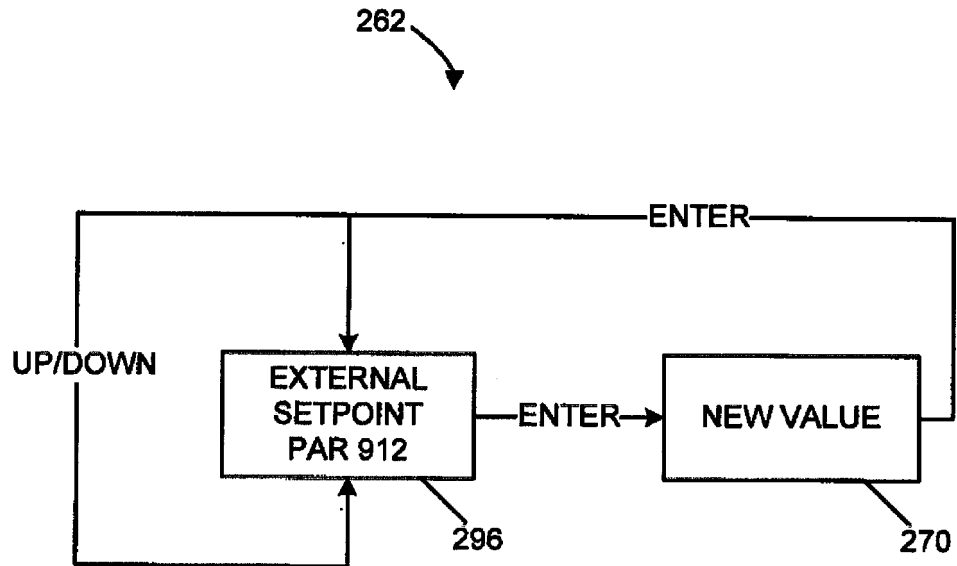


FIGURE 22

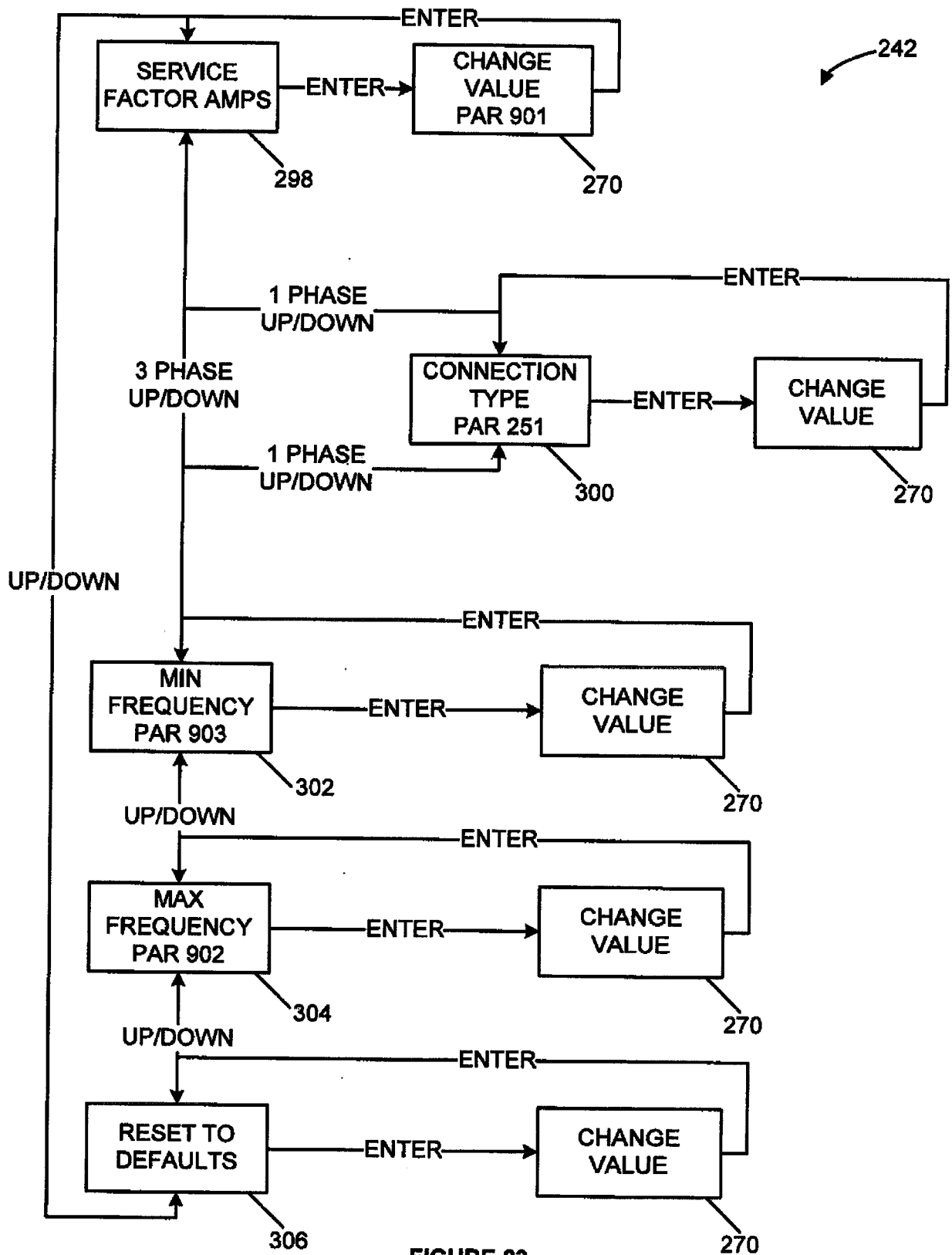


FIGURE 23

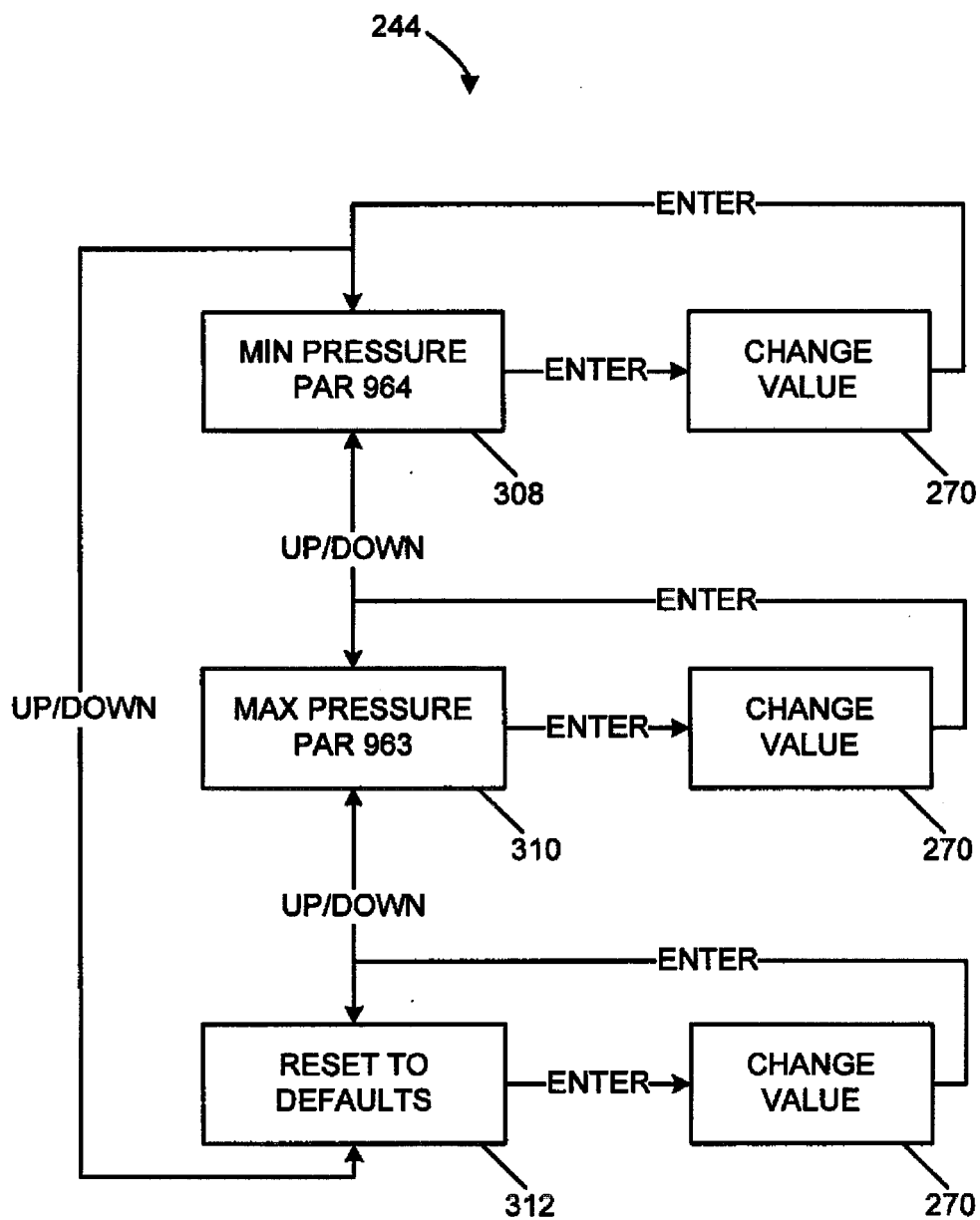


FIGURE 24

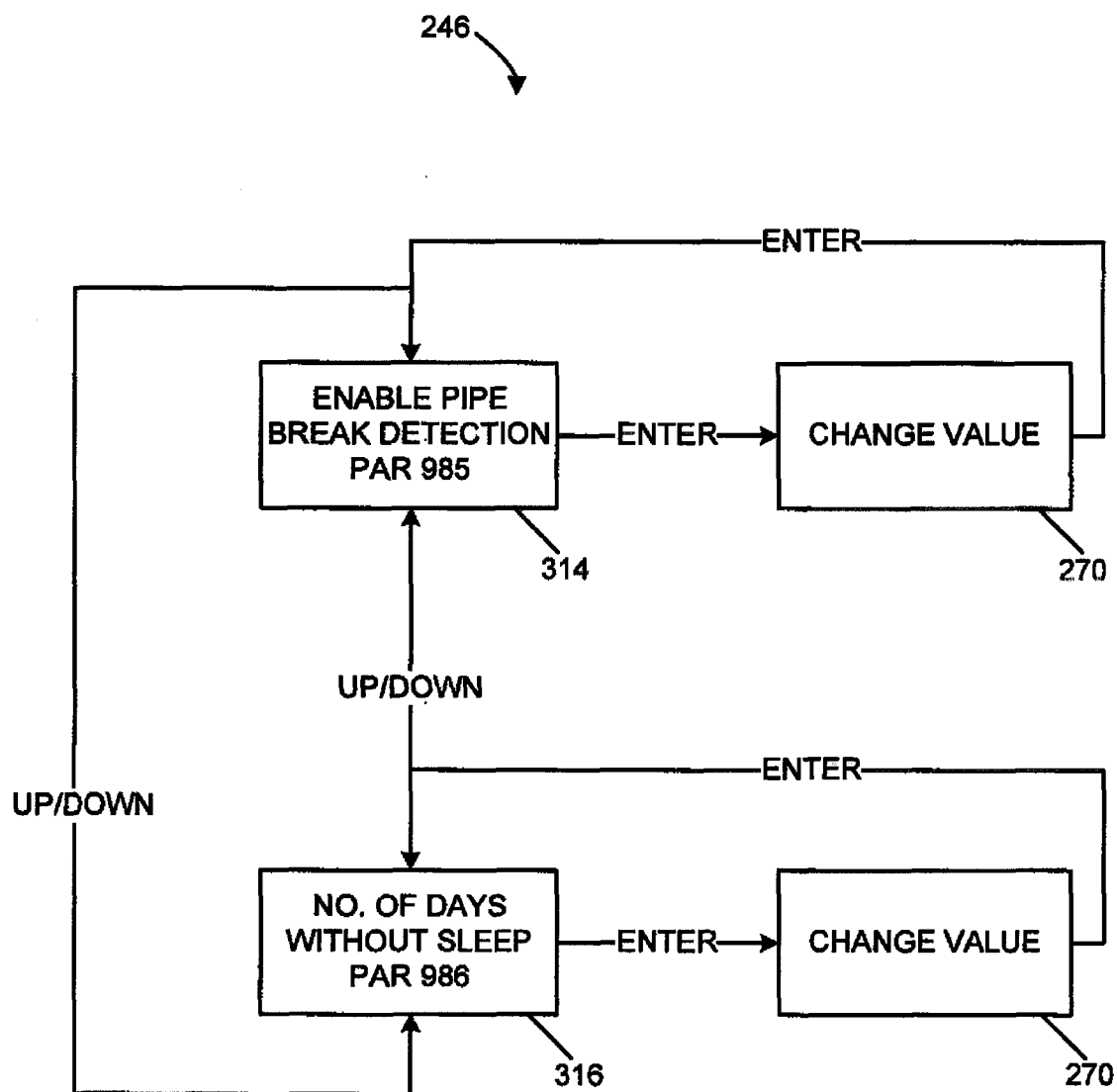


FIGURE 25

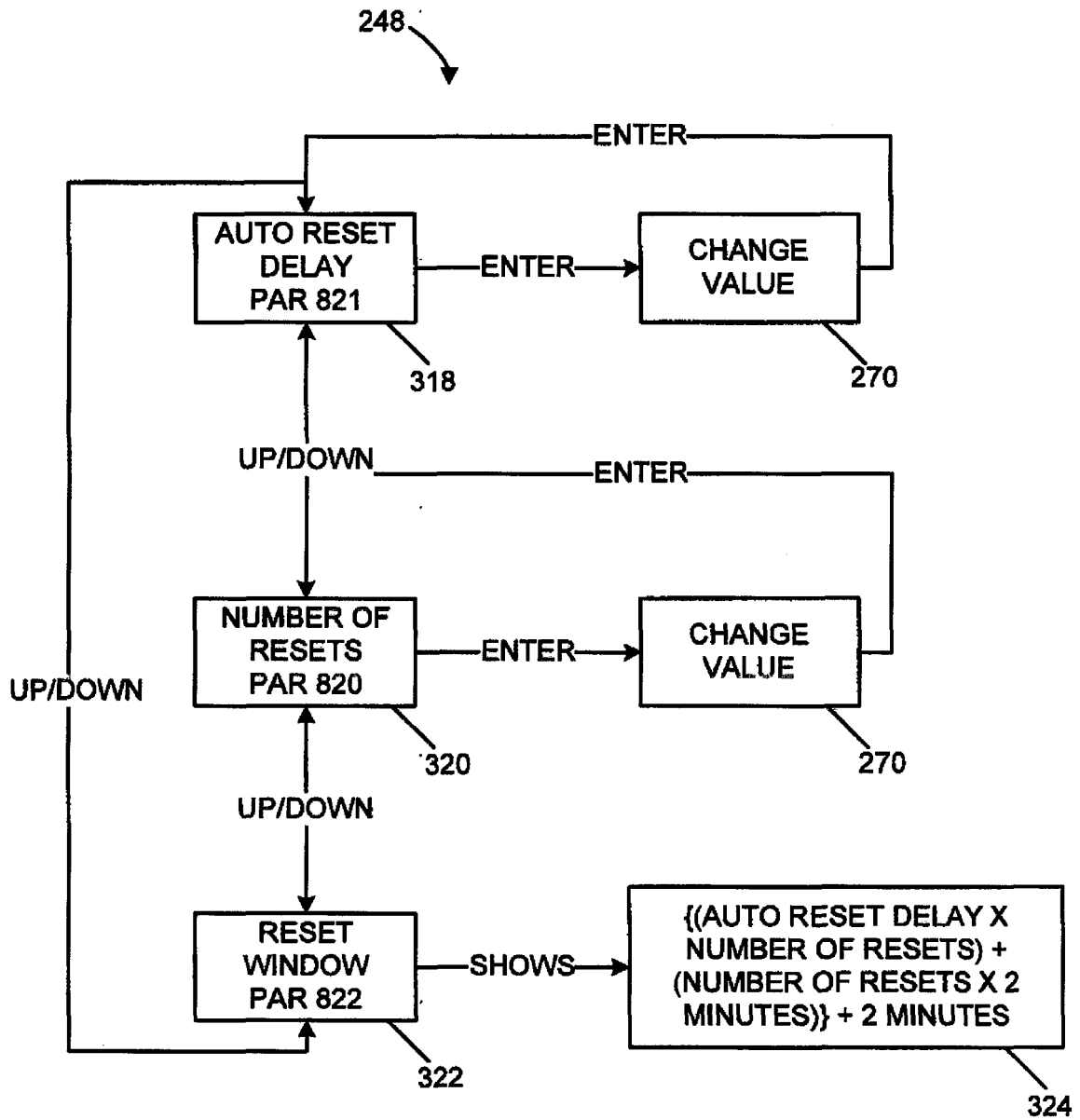


FIGURE 26

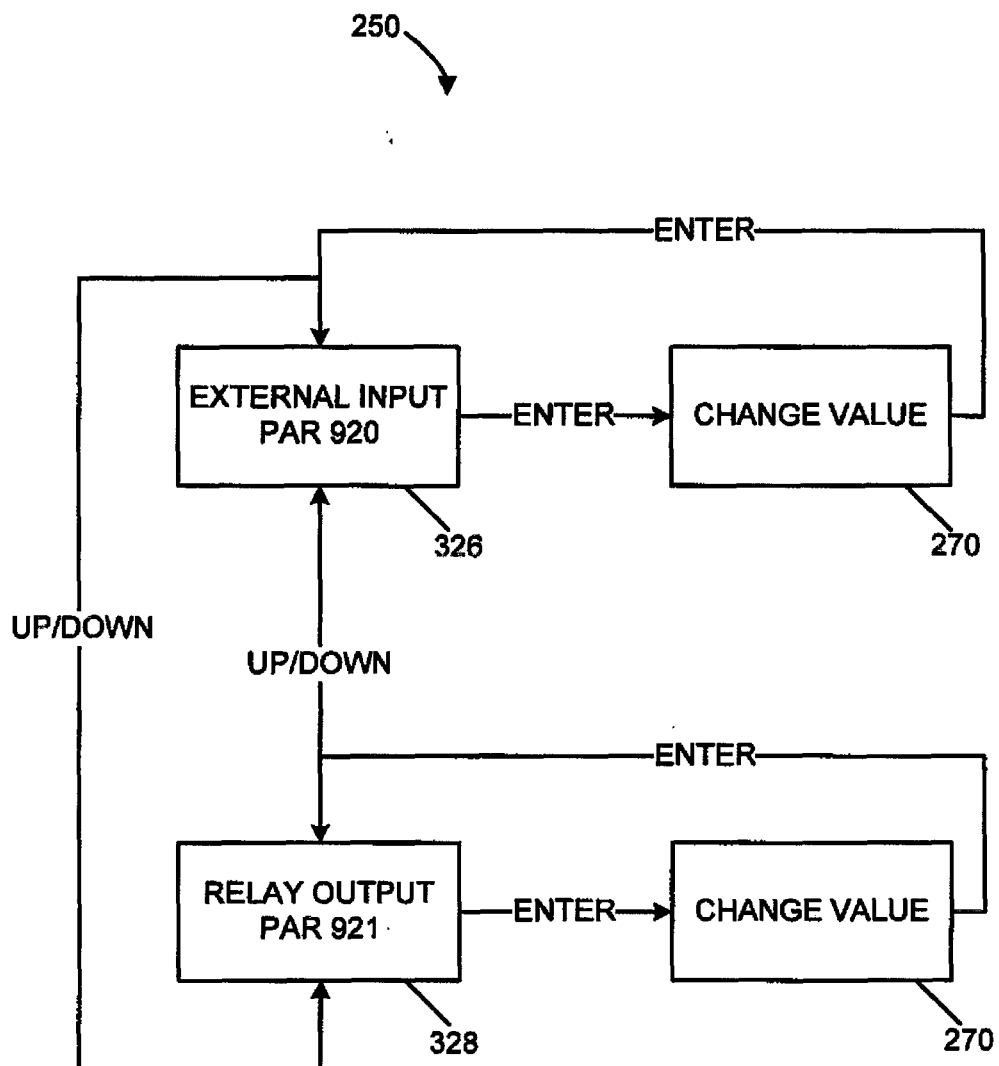


FIGURE 27

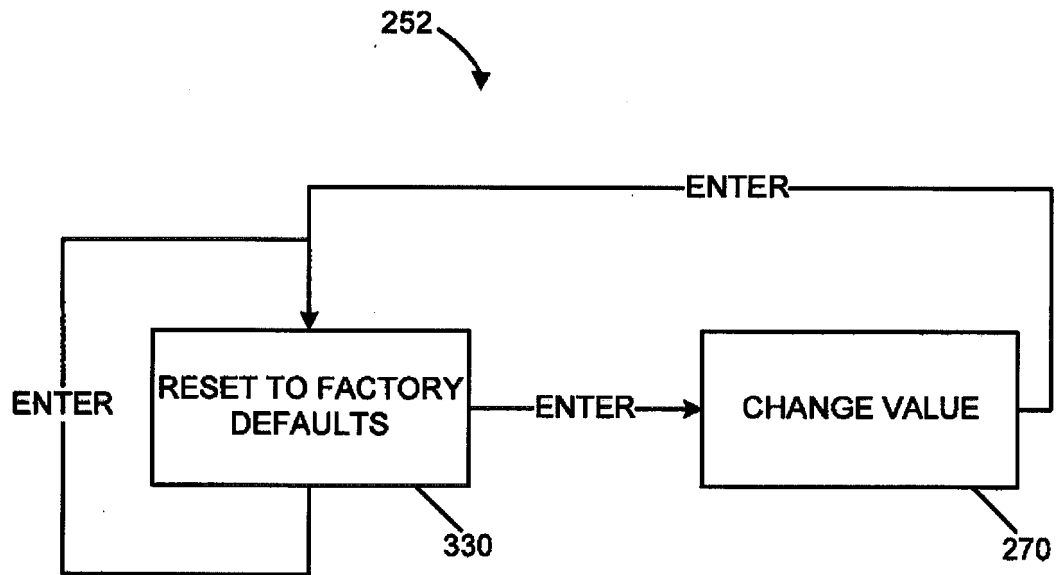


FIGURE 28

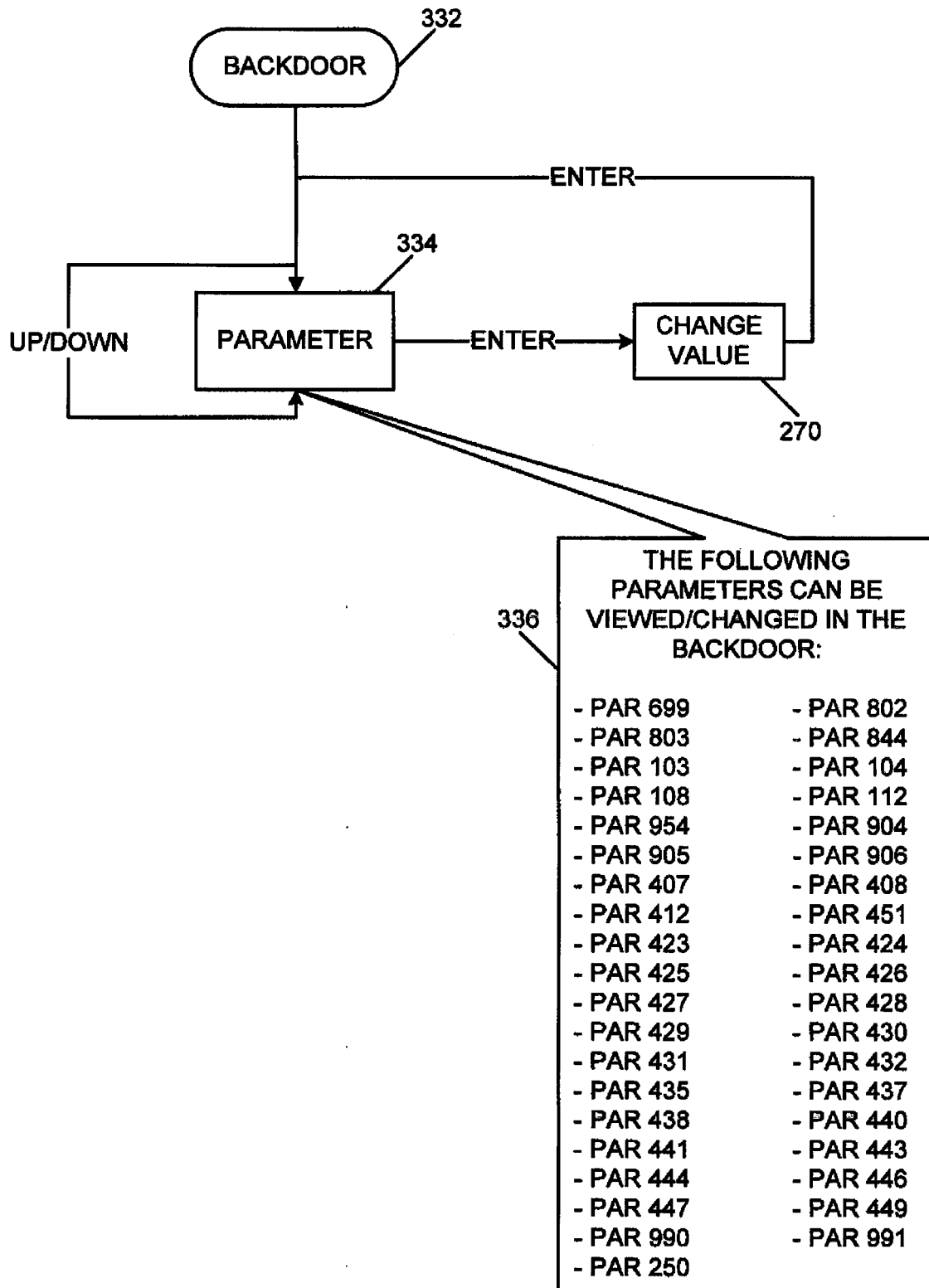


FIGURE 29

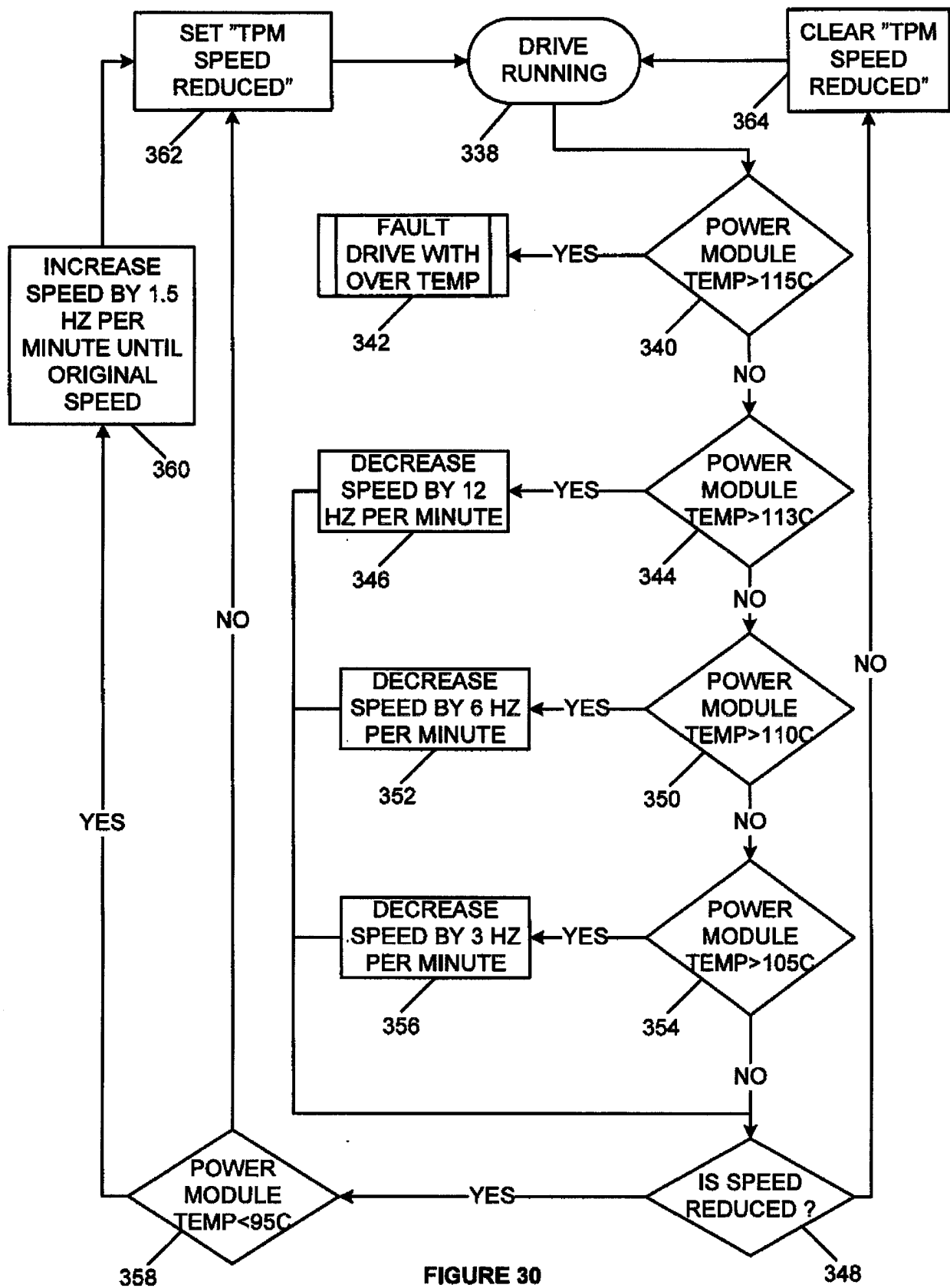


FIGURE 30

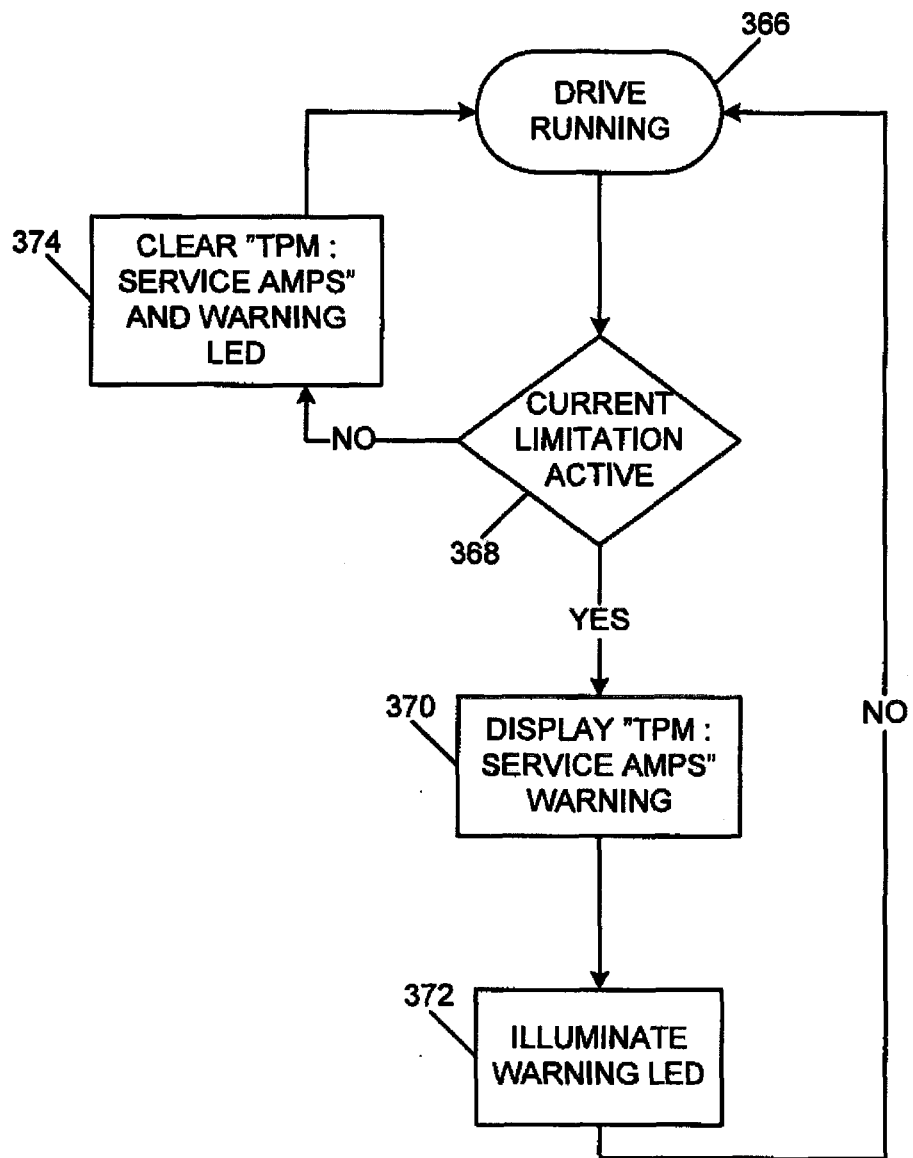


FIGURE 31

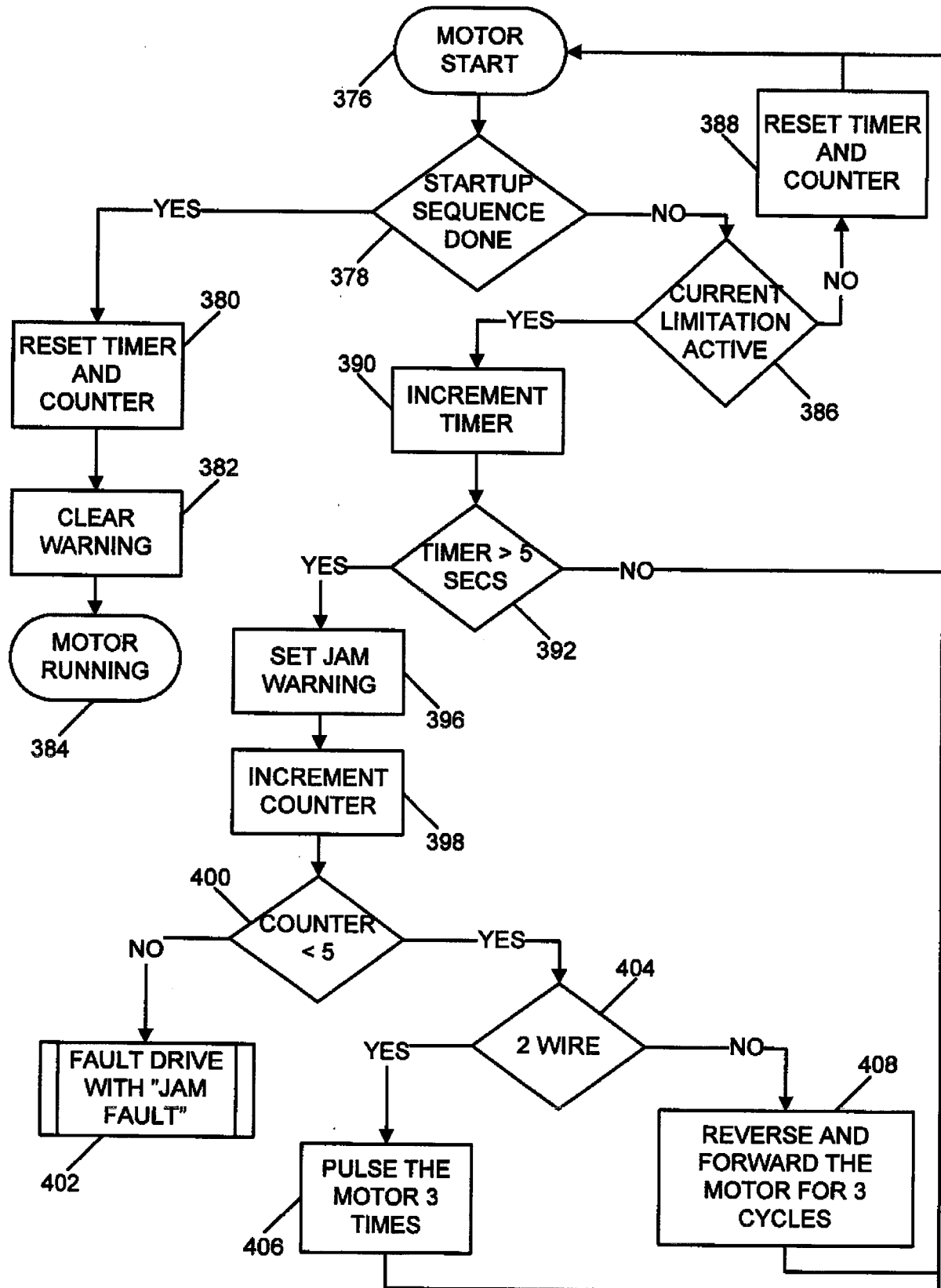


FIGURE 32

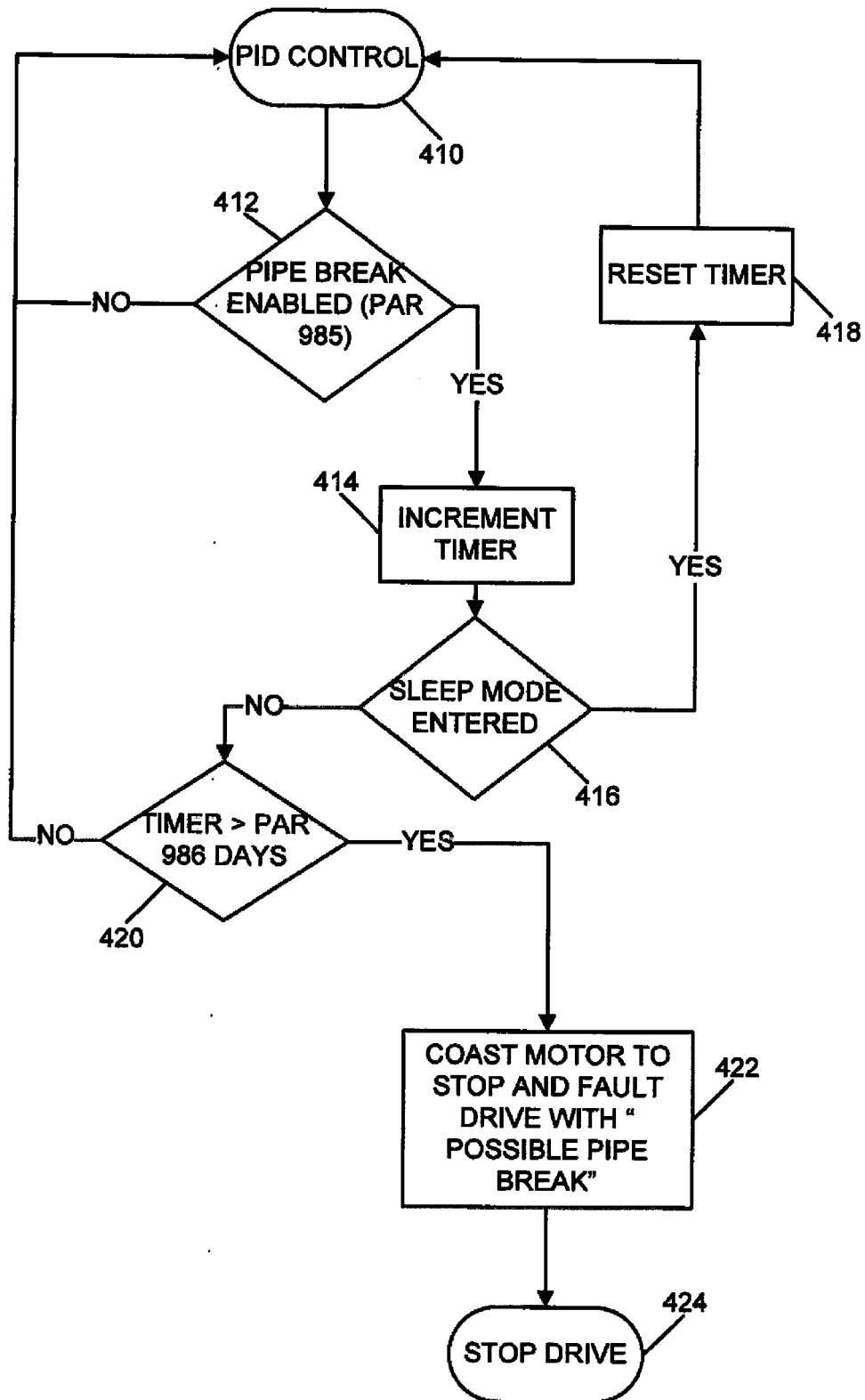


FIGURE 33

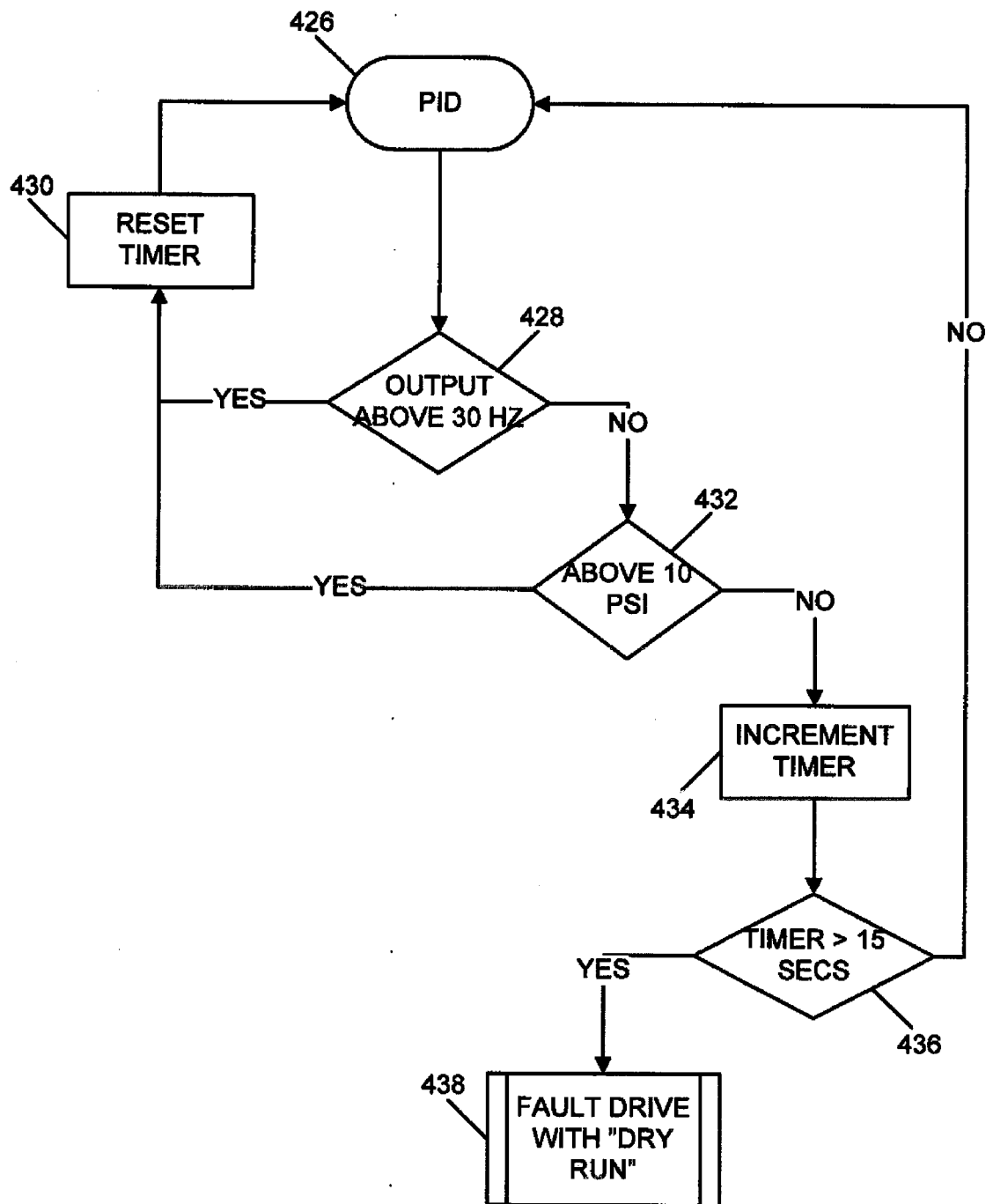


FIGURE 34

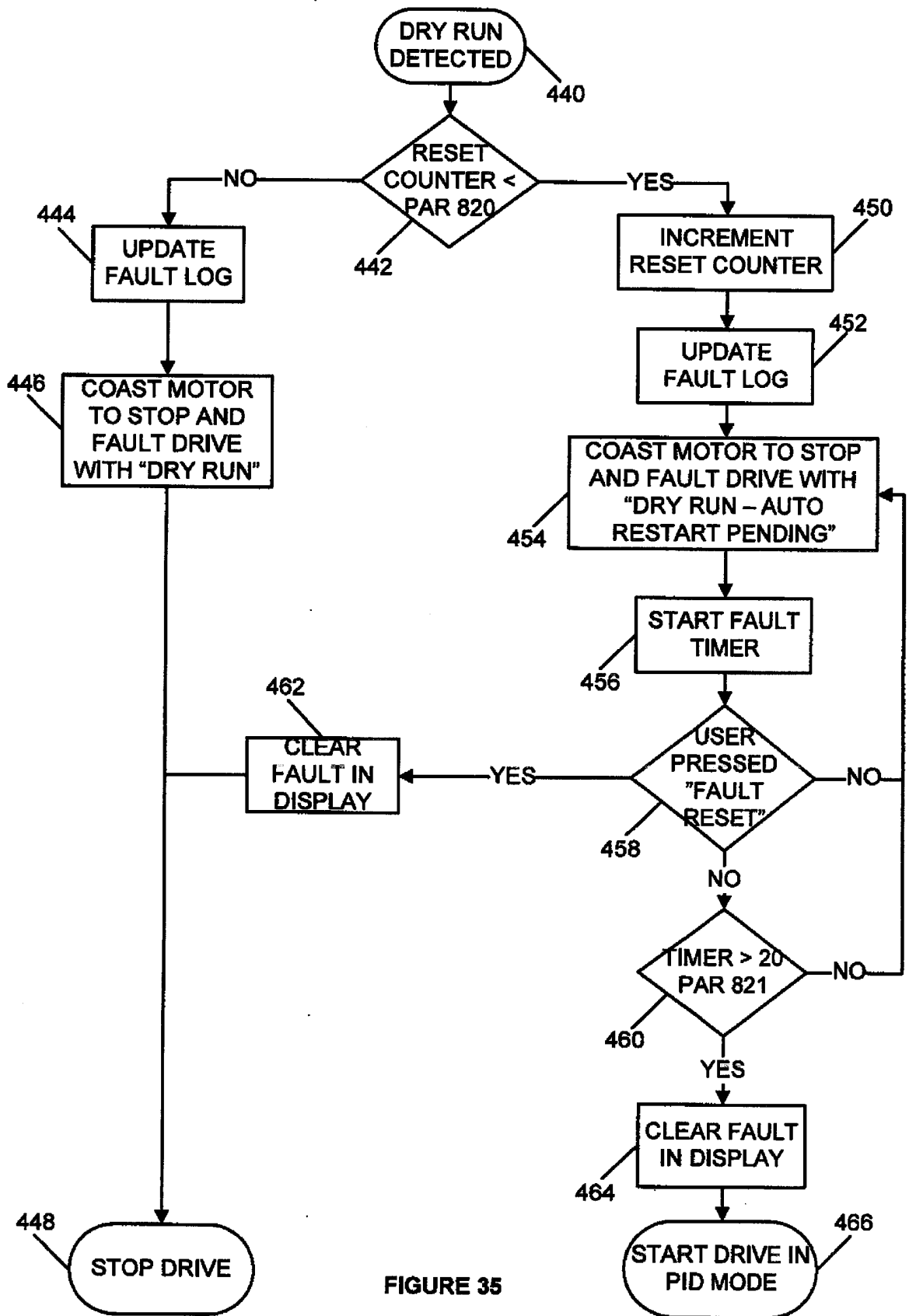


FIGURE 35

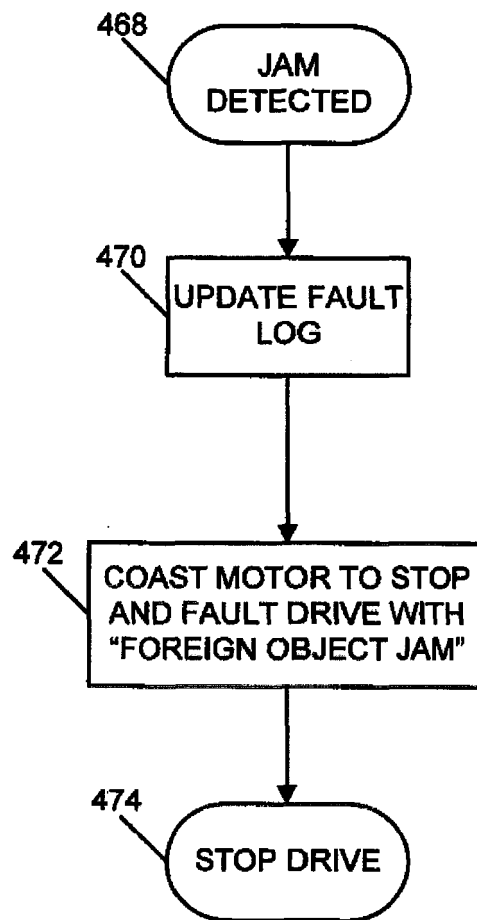


FIGURE 36

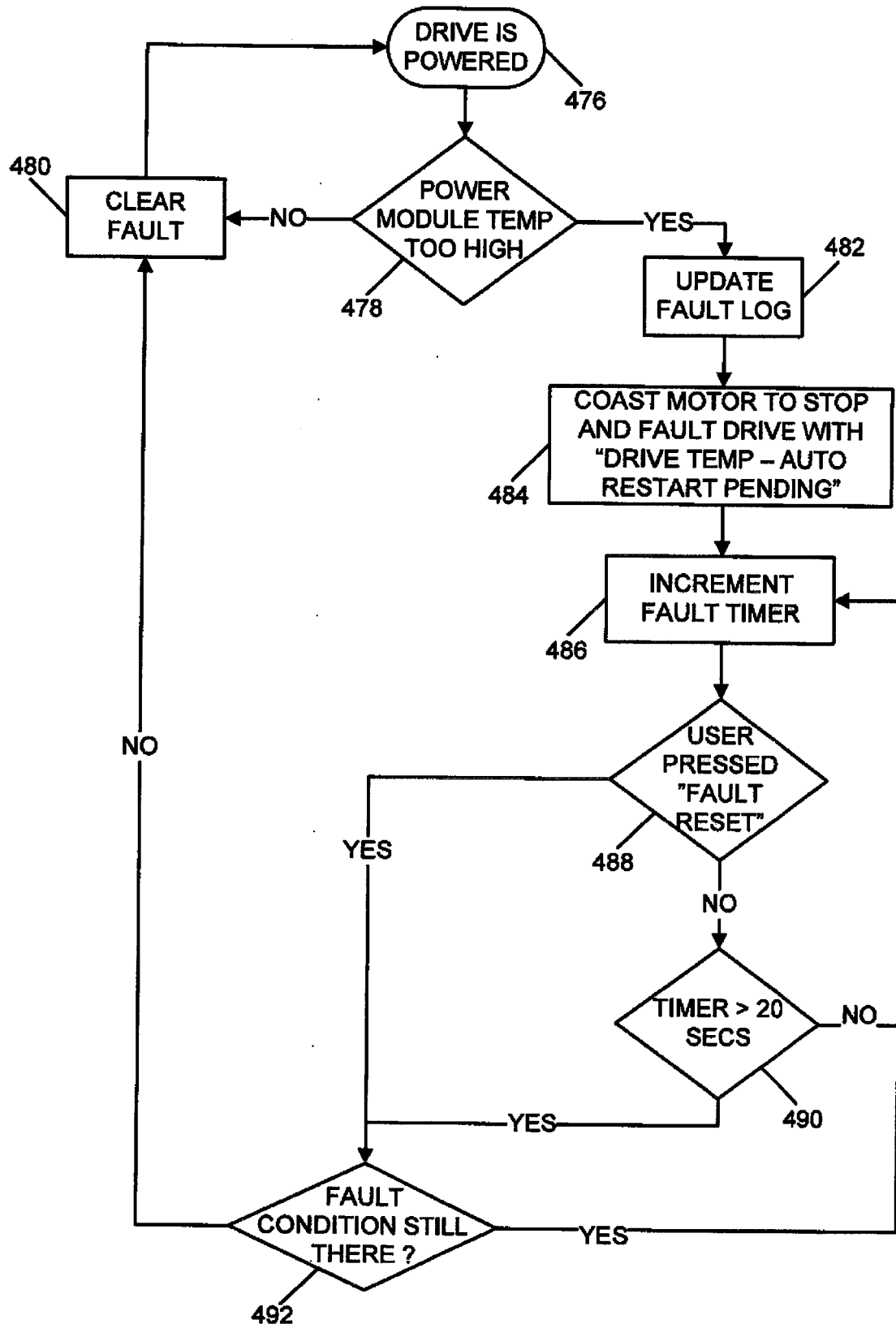


FIGURE 37

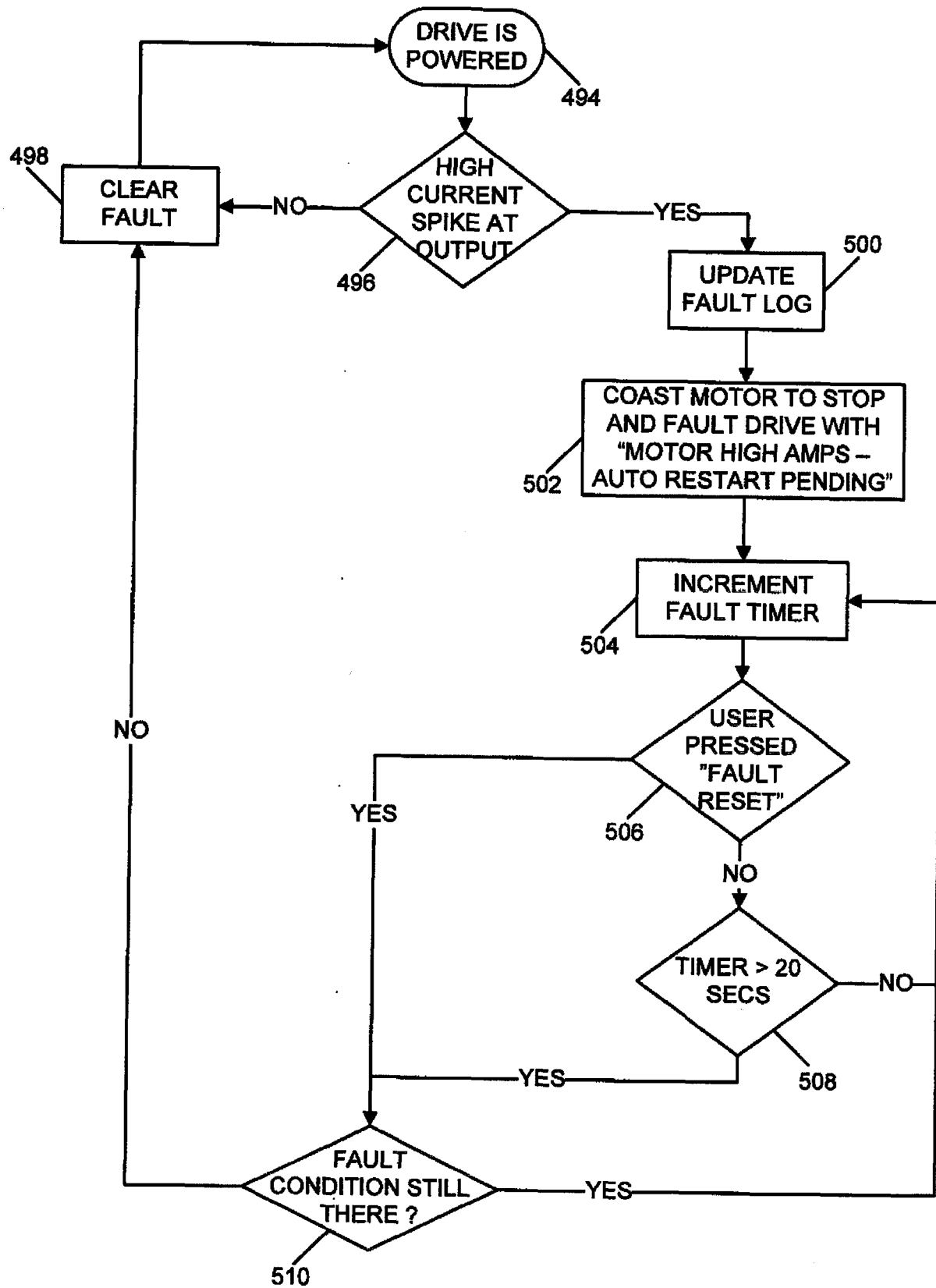


FIGURE 38

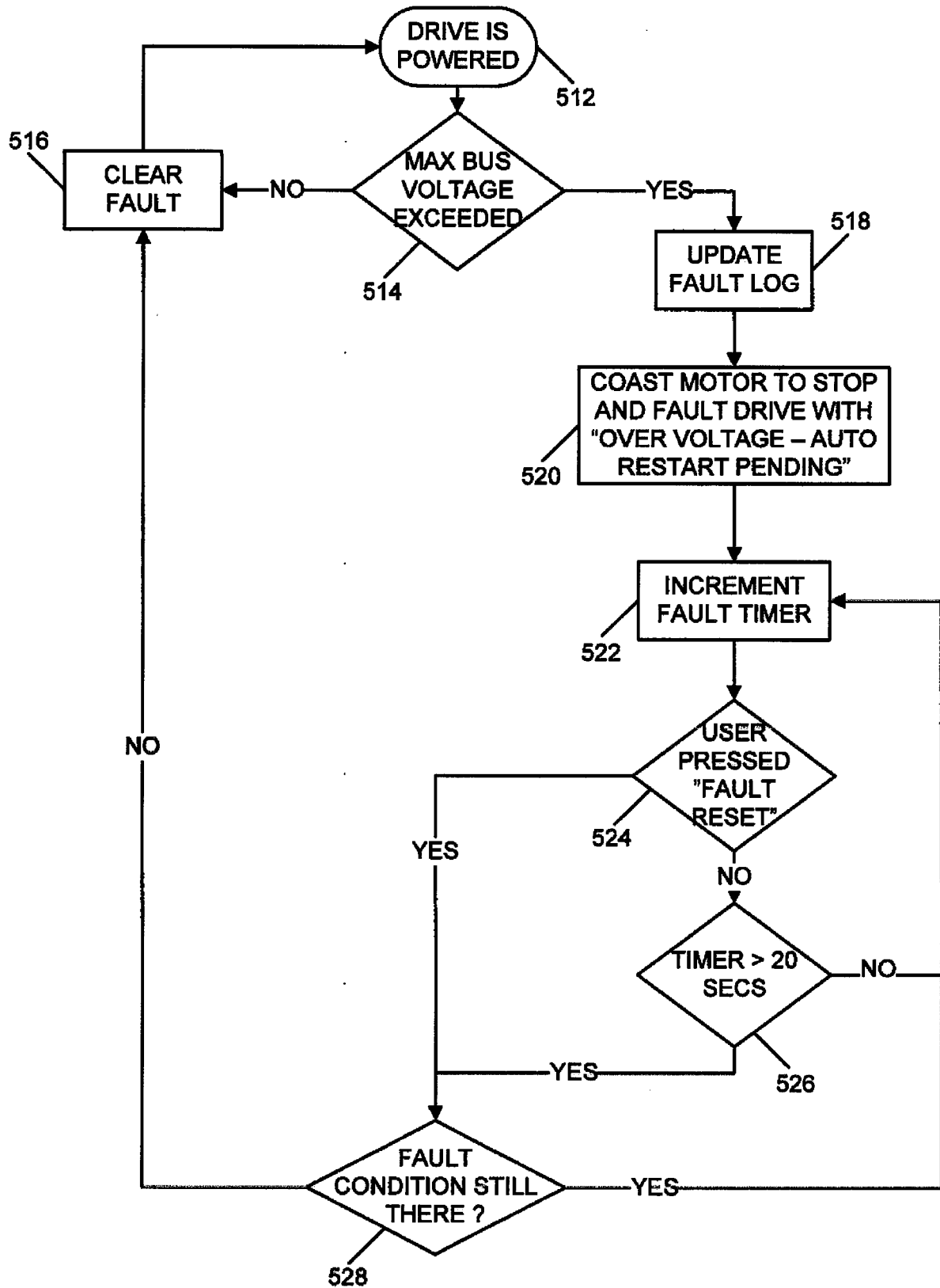


FIGURE 39

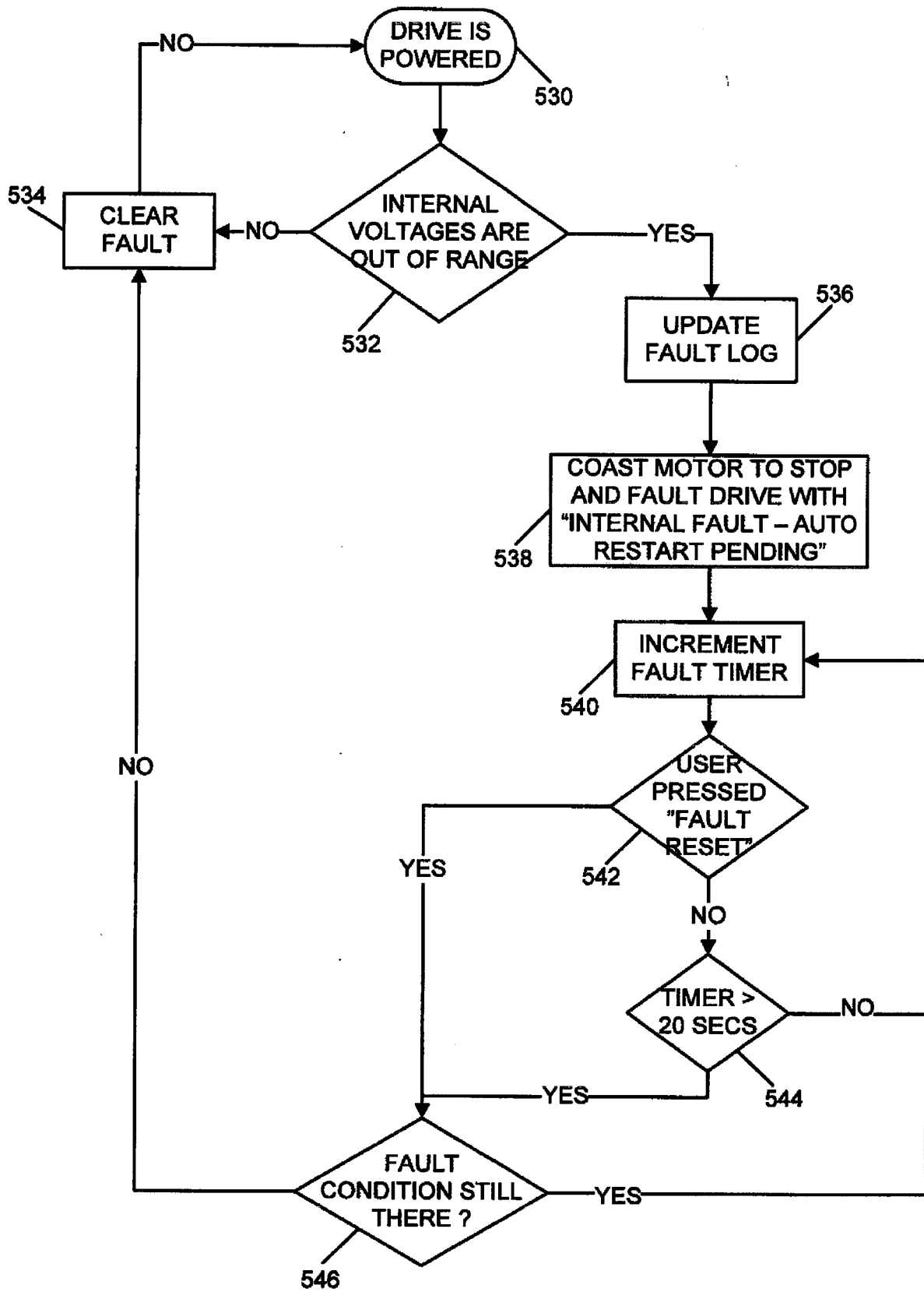


FIGURE 40

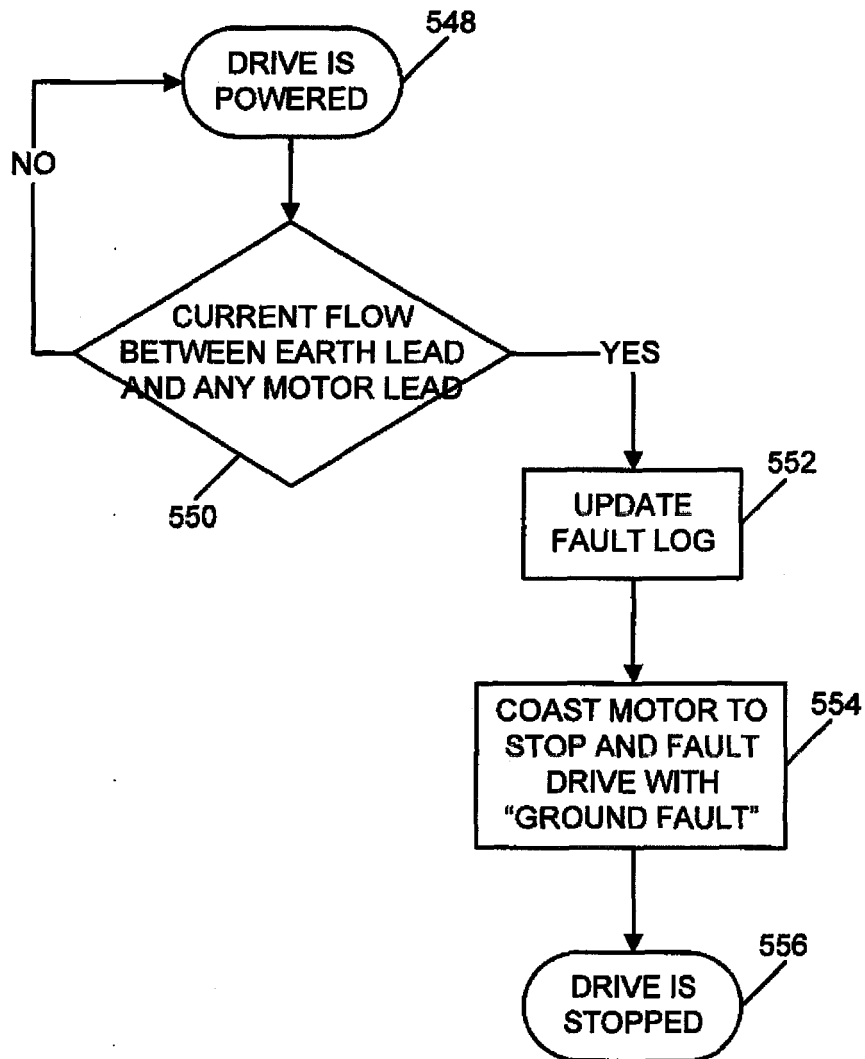


FIGURE 41

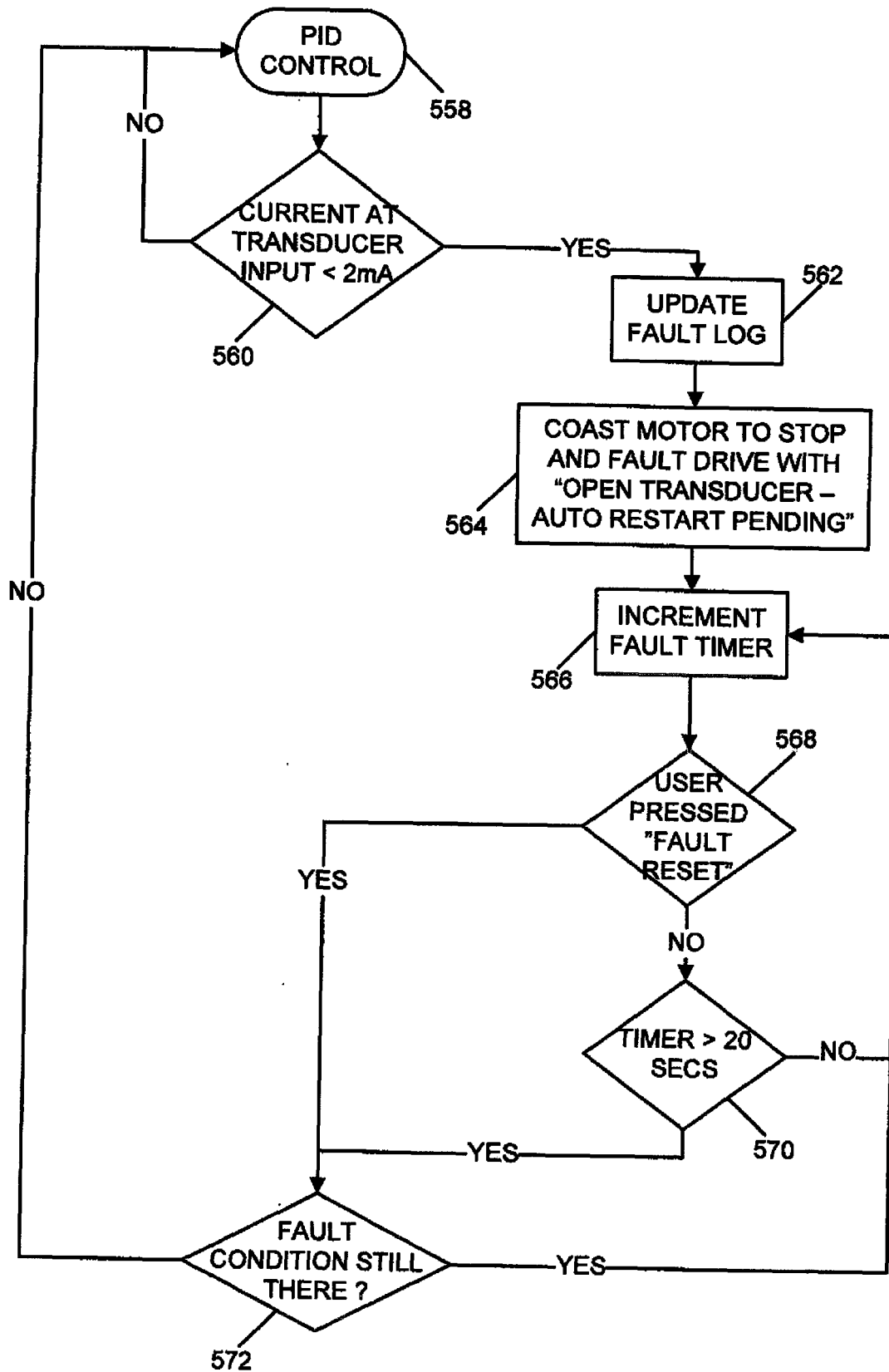


FIGURE 42

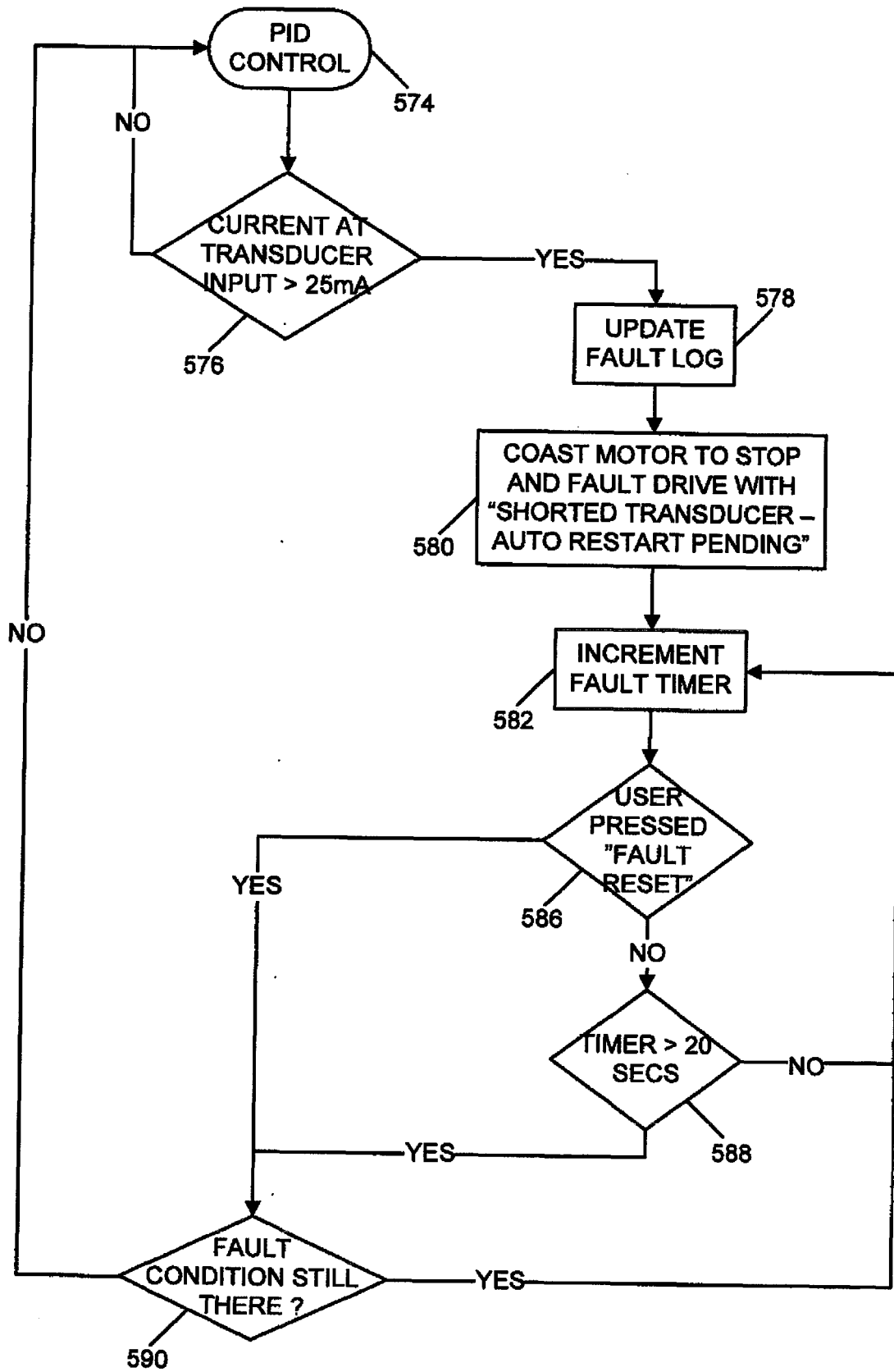


FIGURE 43

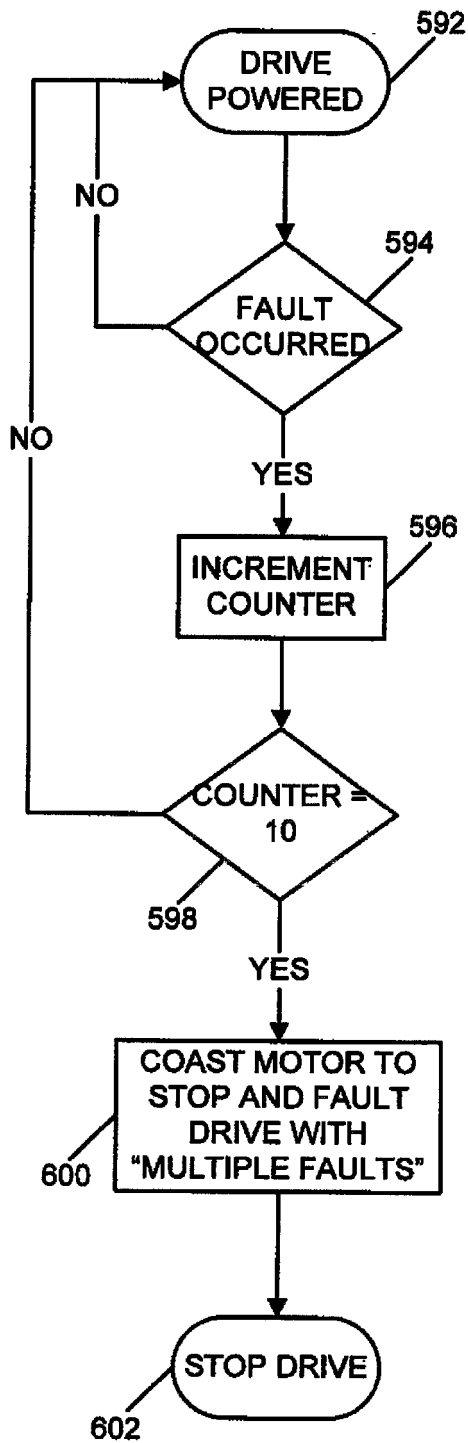


FIGURE 44A

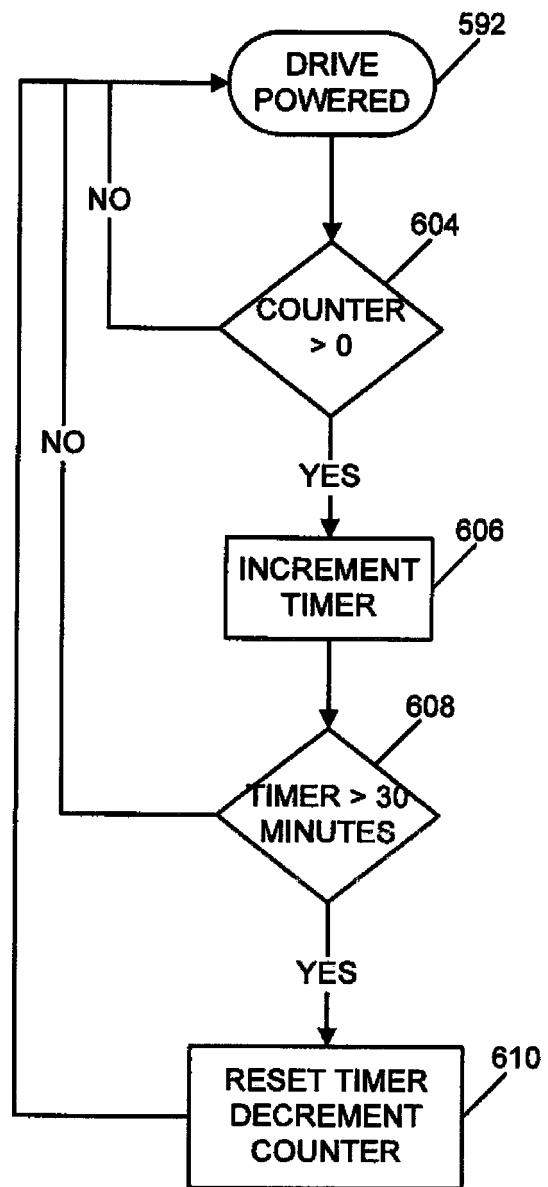


FIGURE 44B

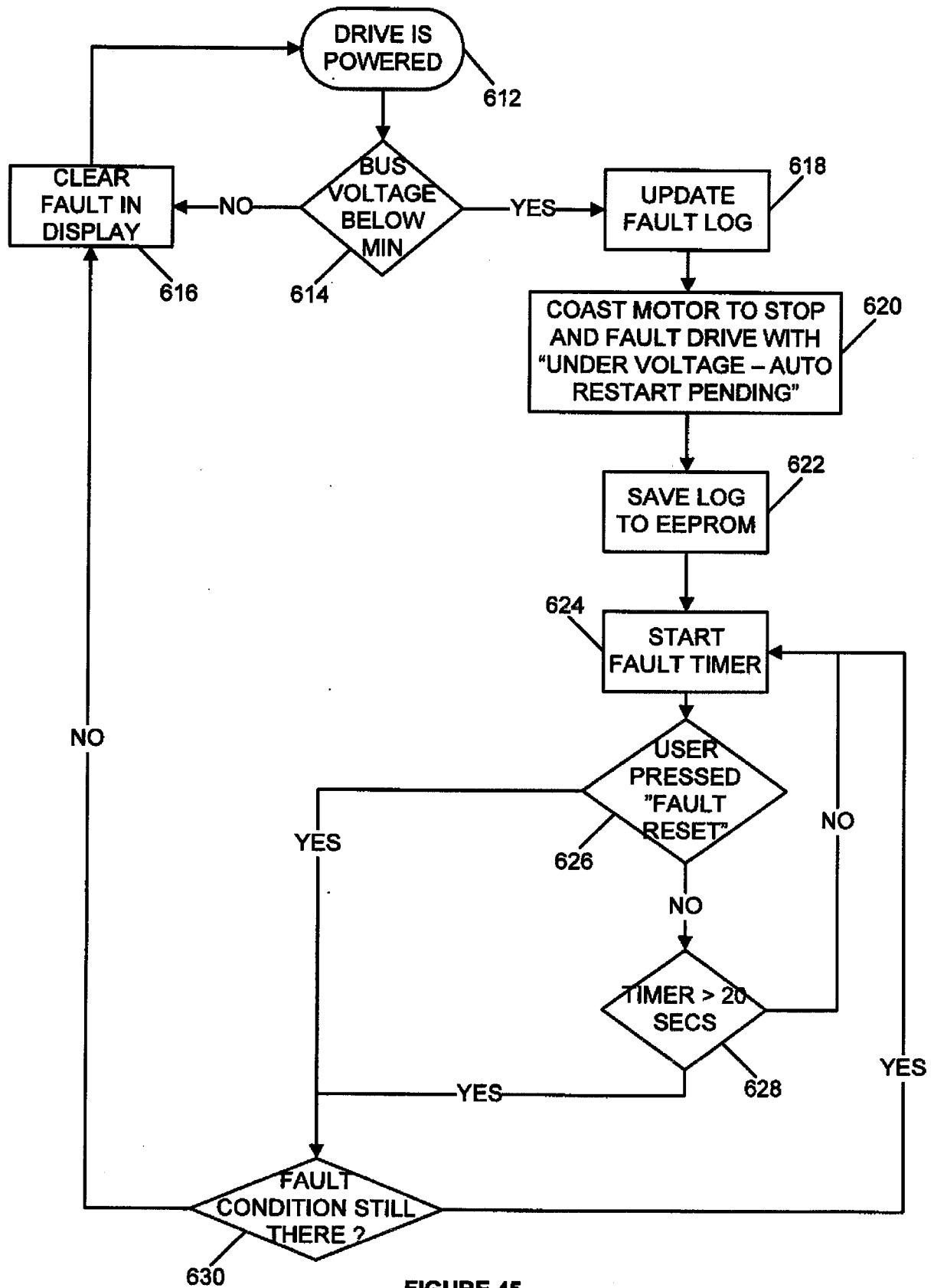


FIGURE 45

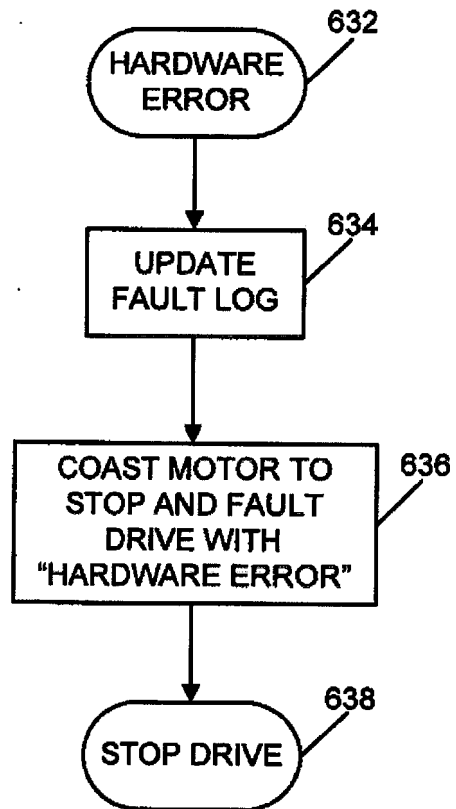


FIGURE 46

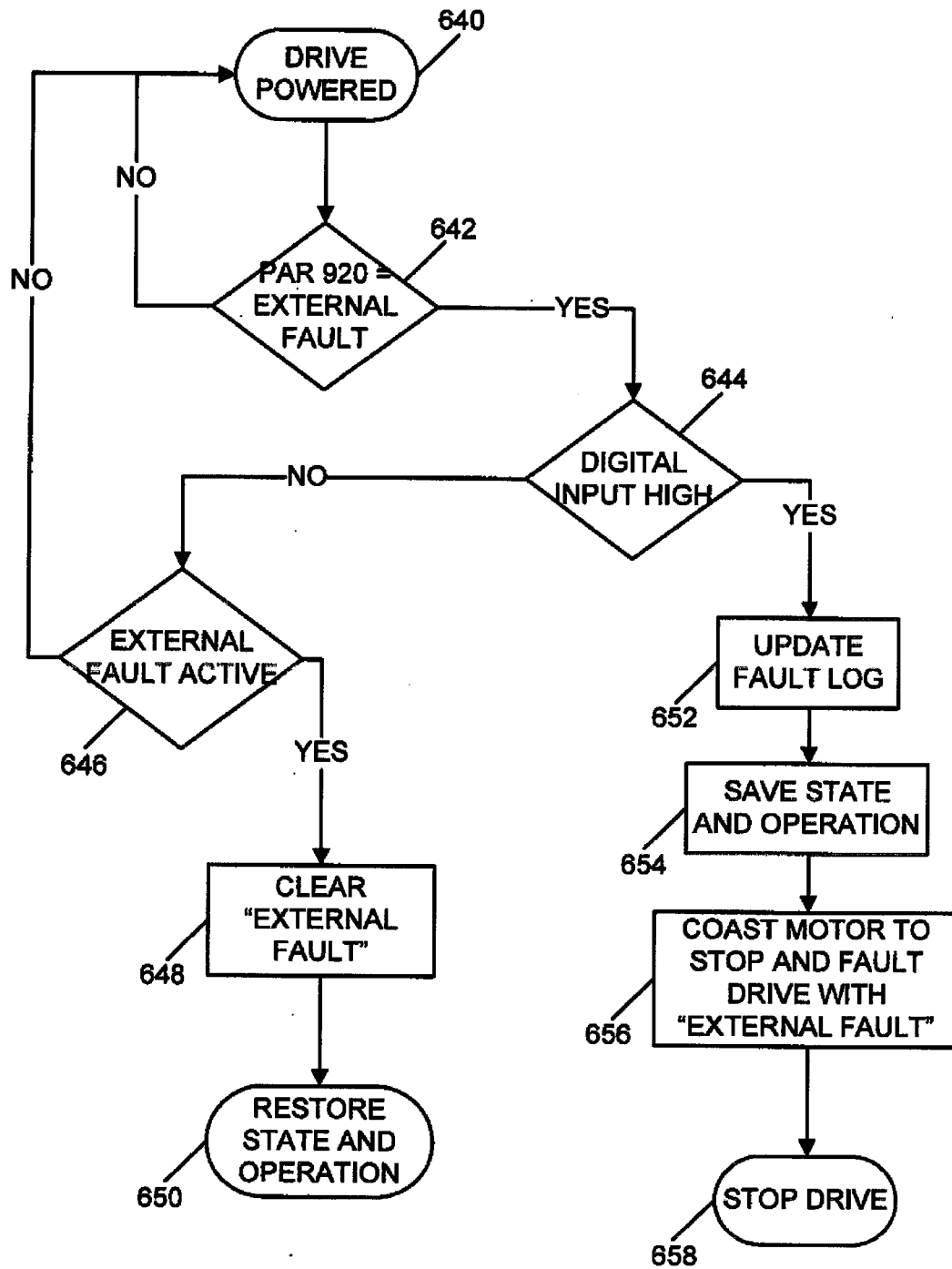
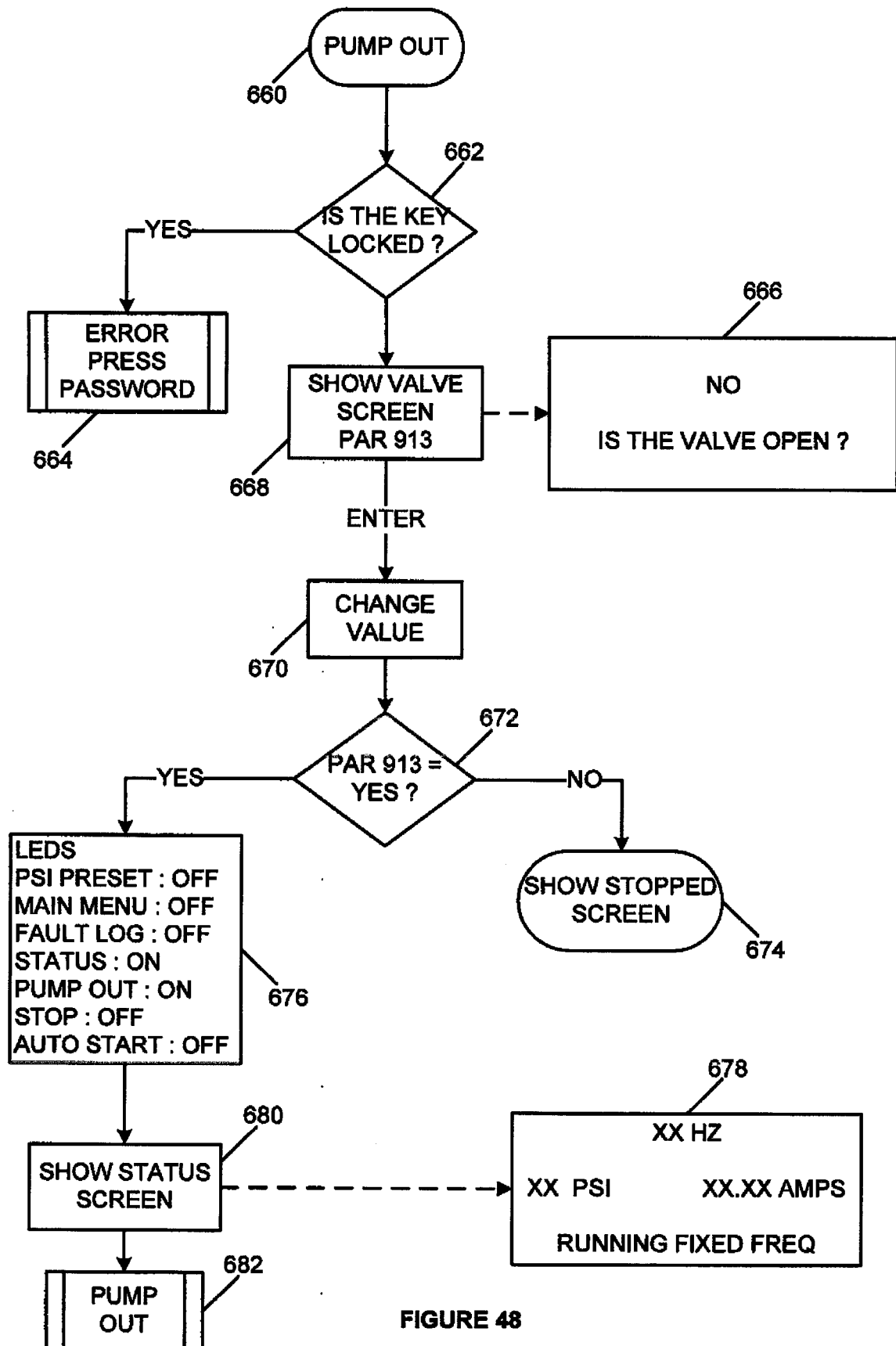


FIGURE 47



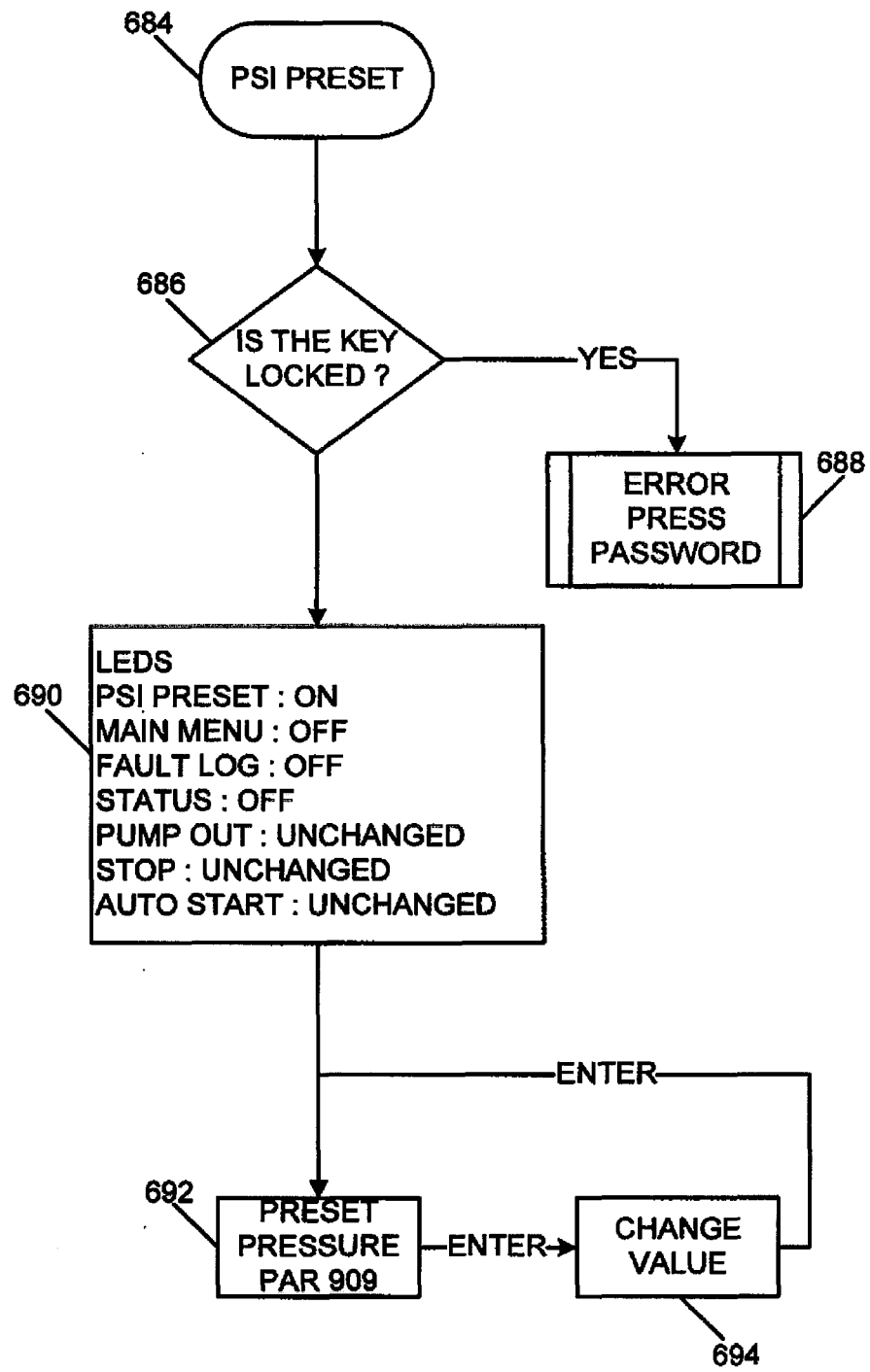


FIGURE 49

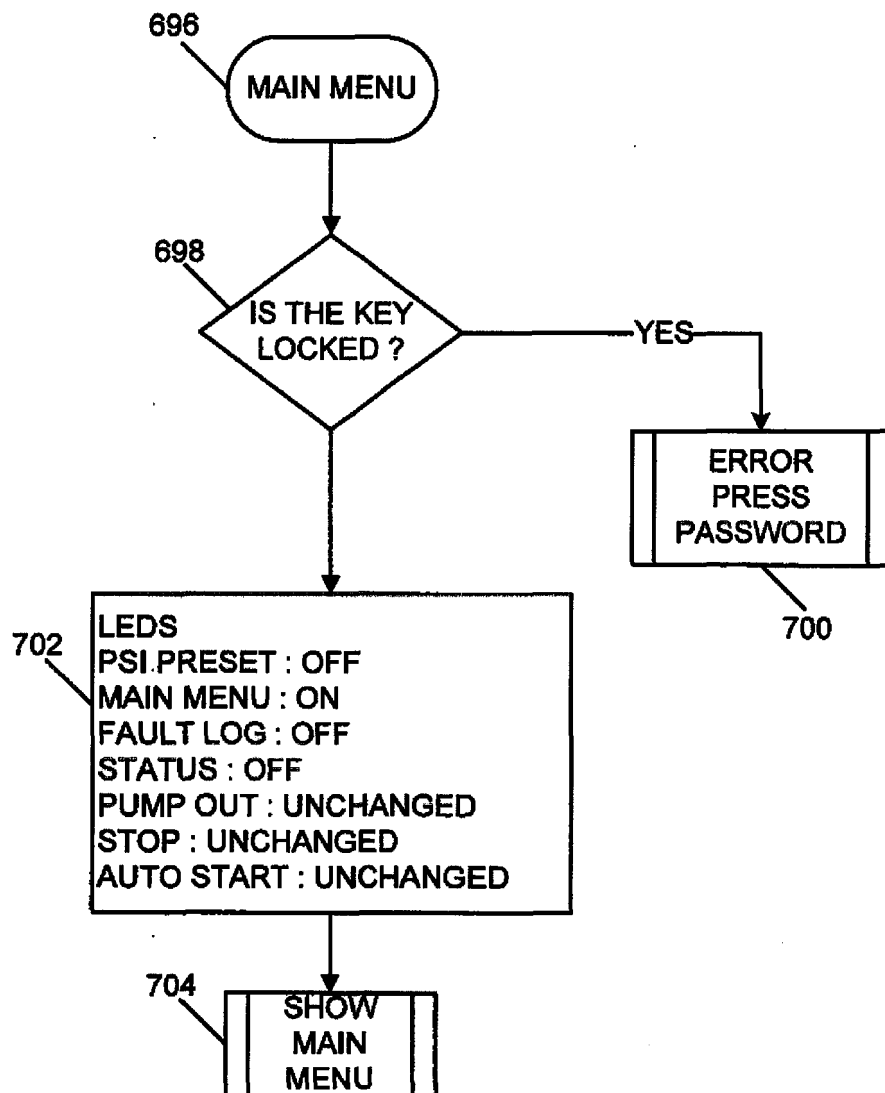


FIGURE 50

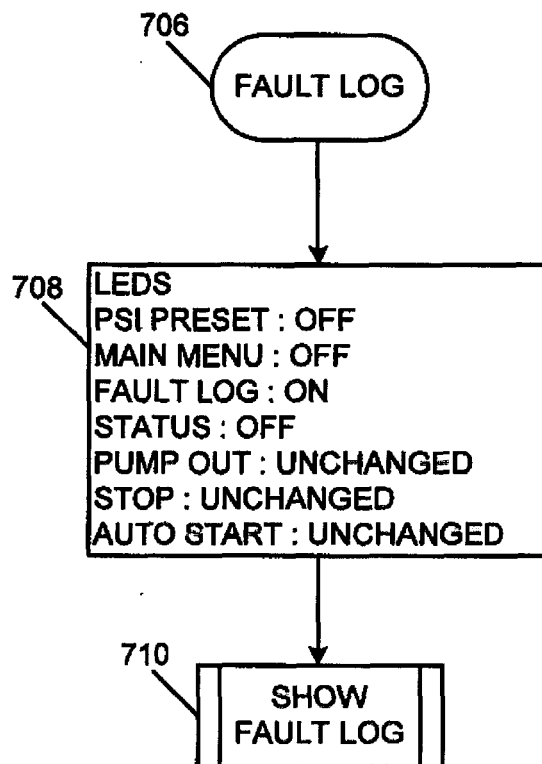


FIGURE 51

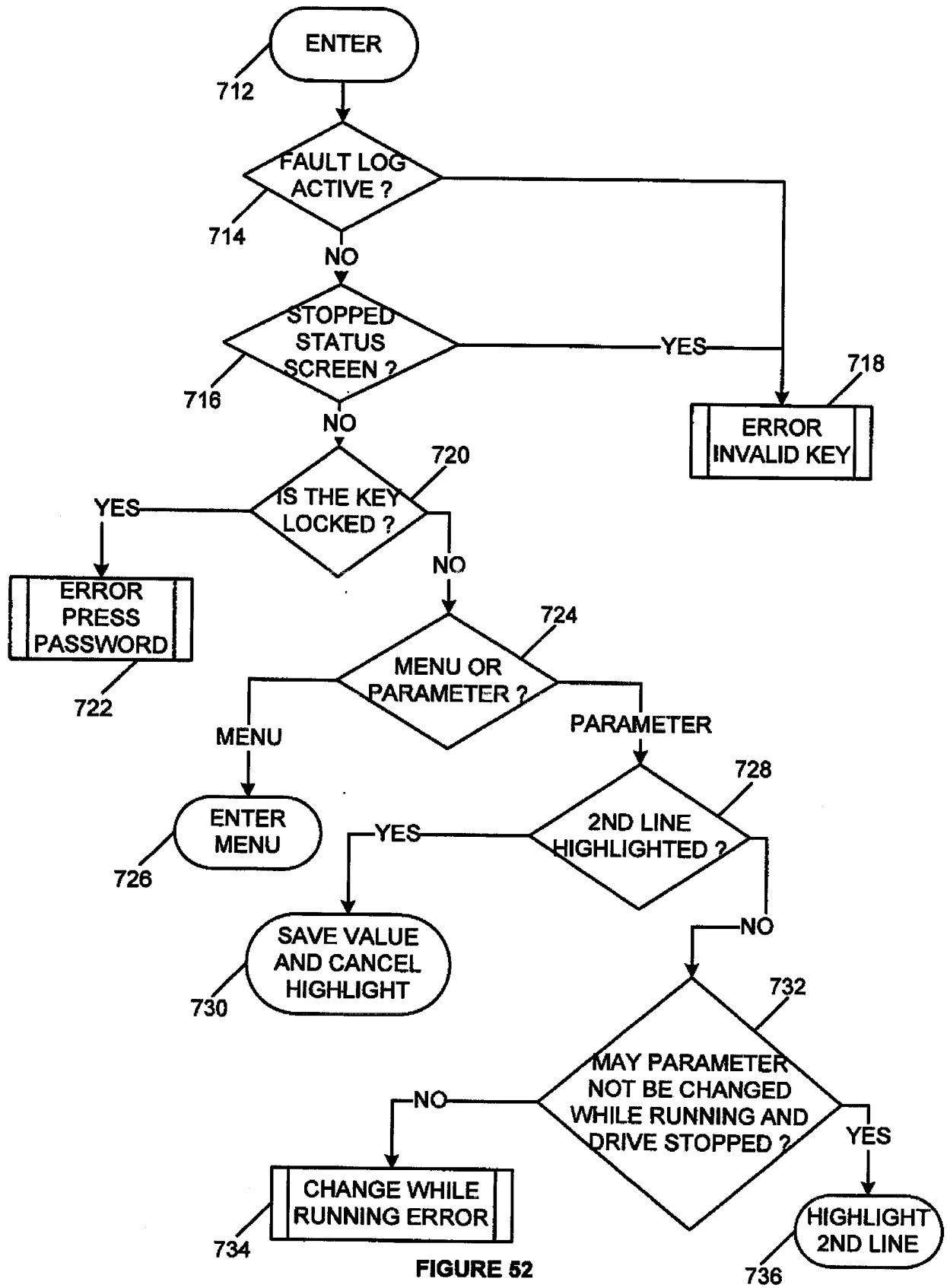


FIGURE 52

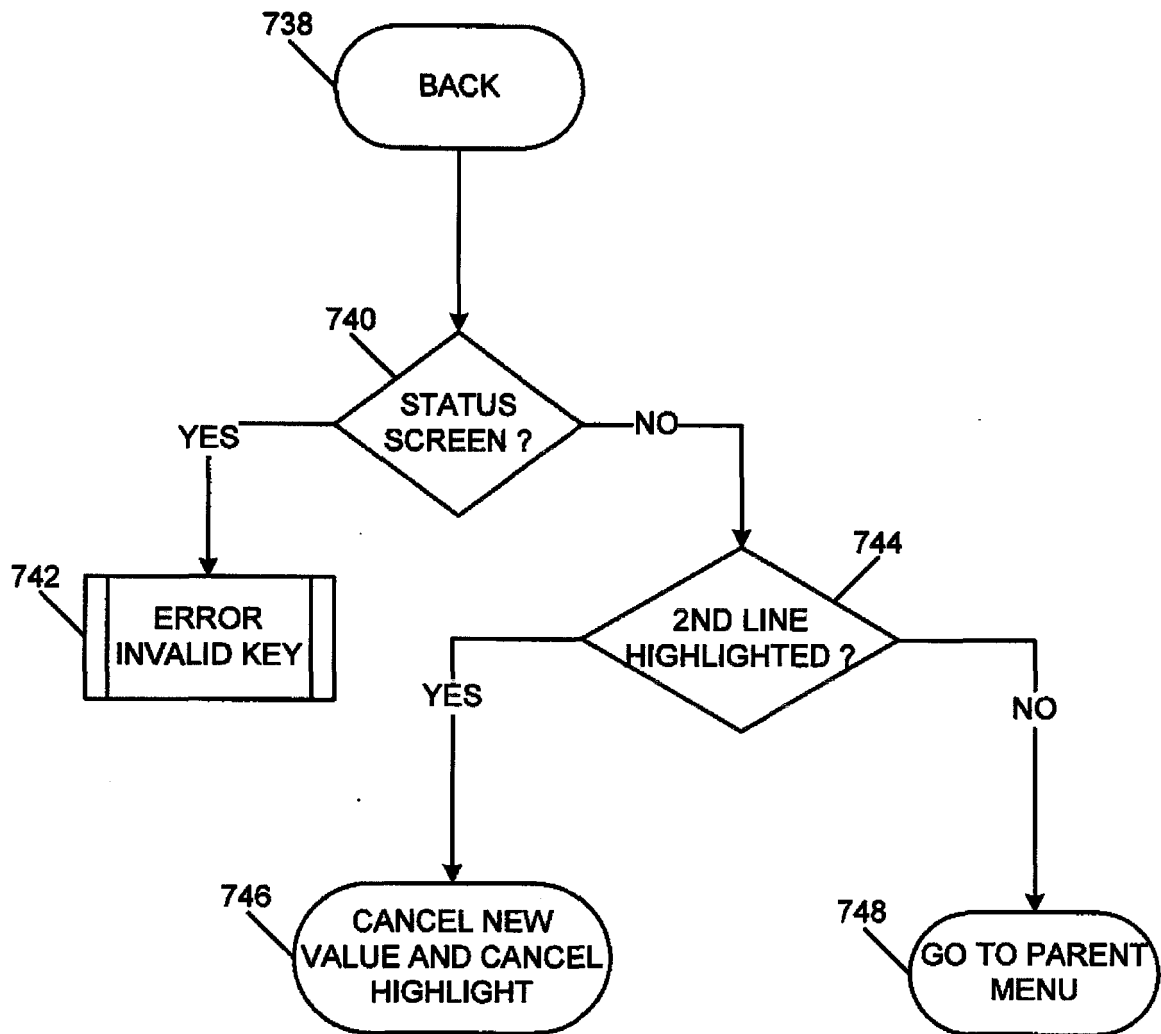


FIGURE 53

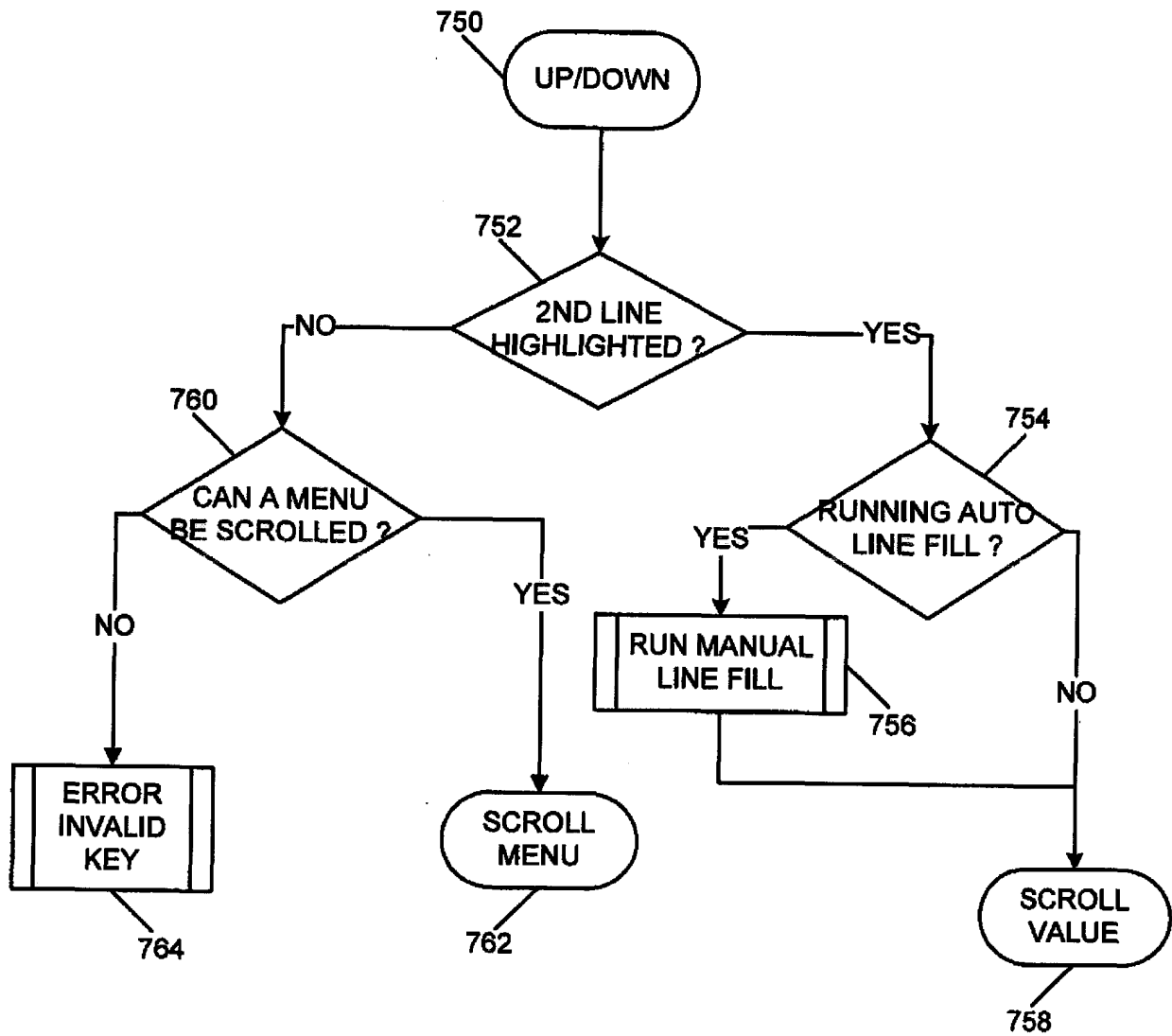


FIGURE 54

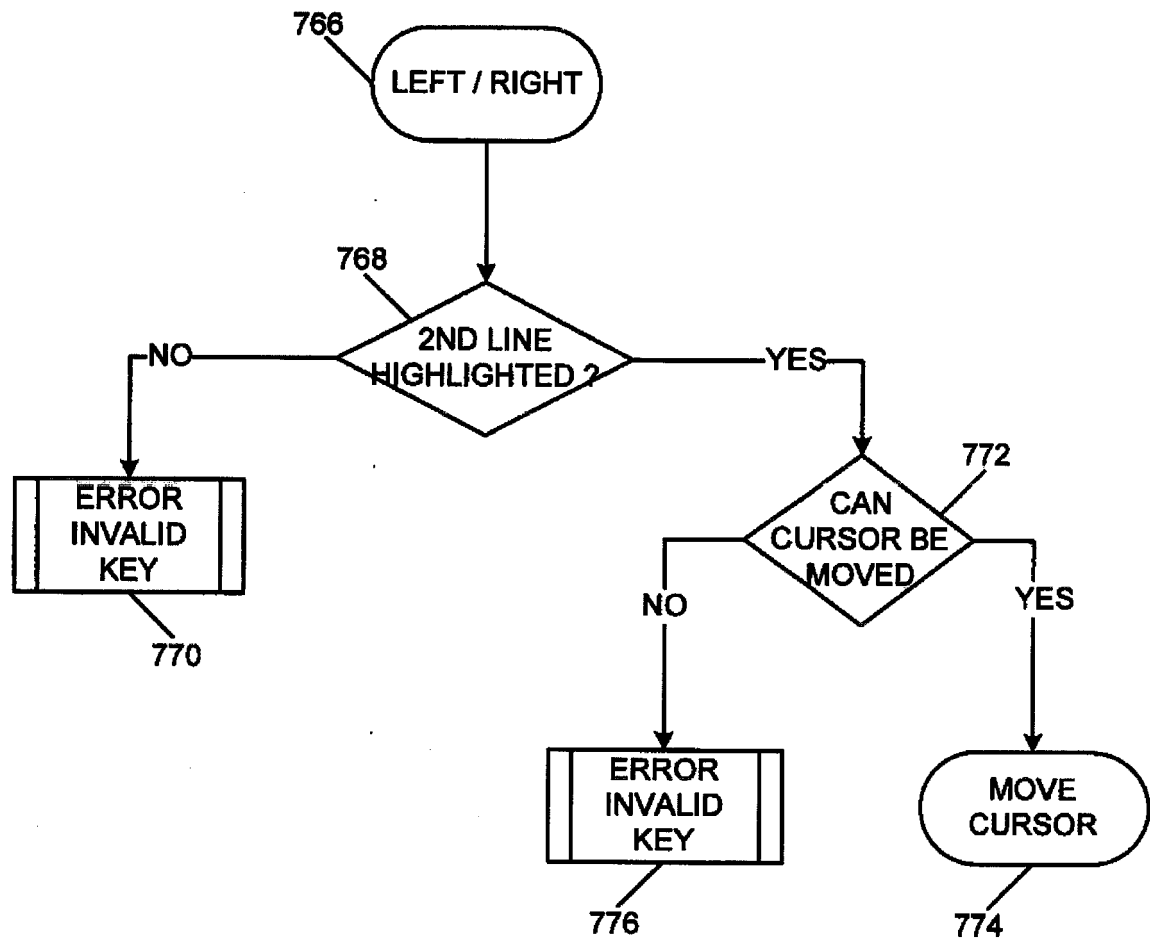
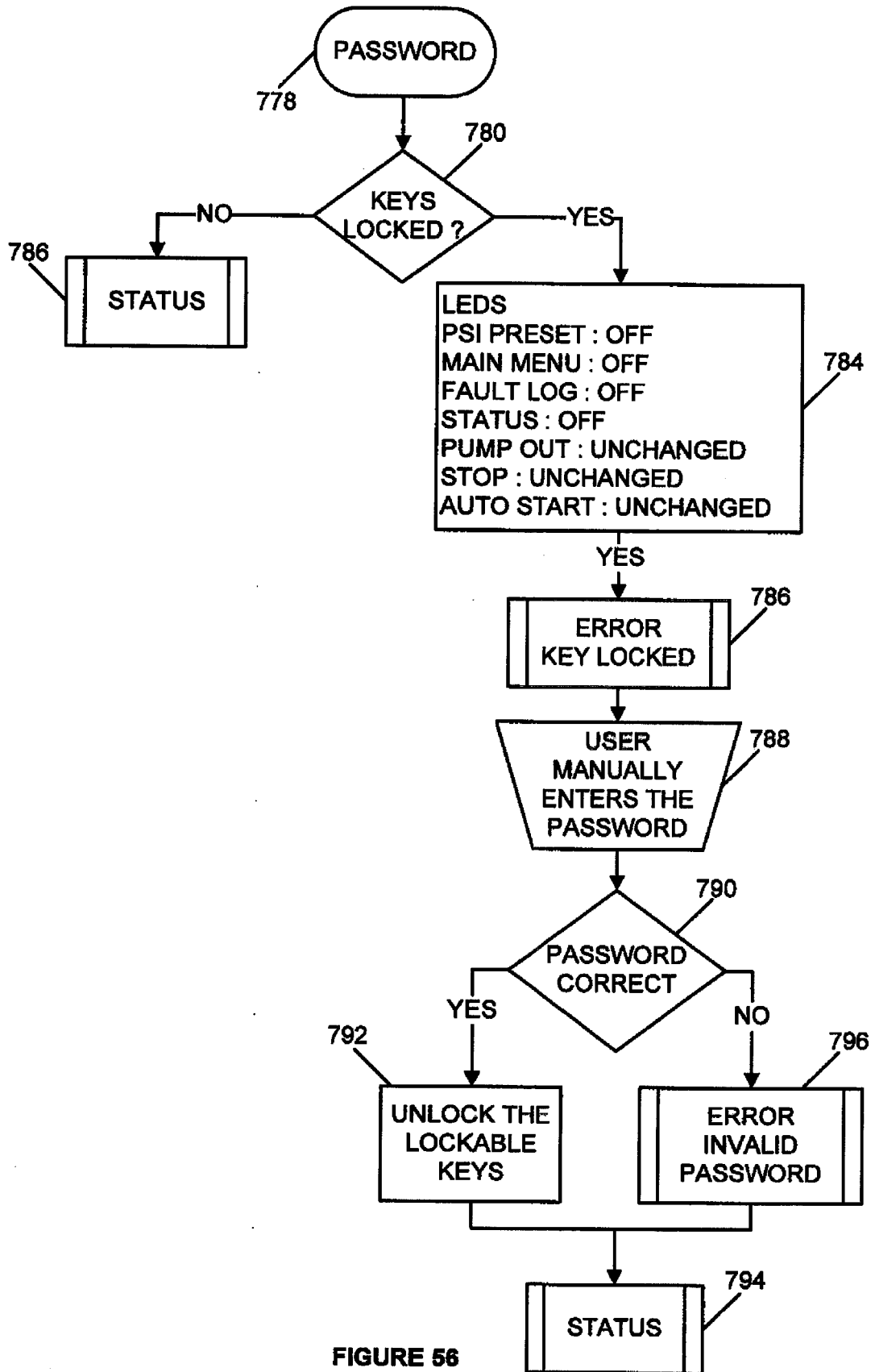


FIGURE 55



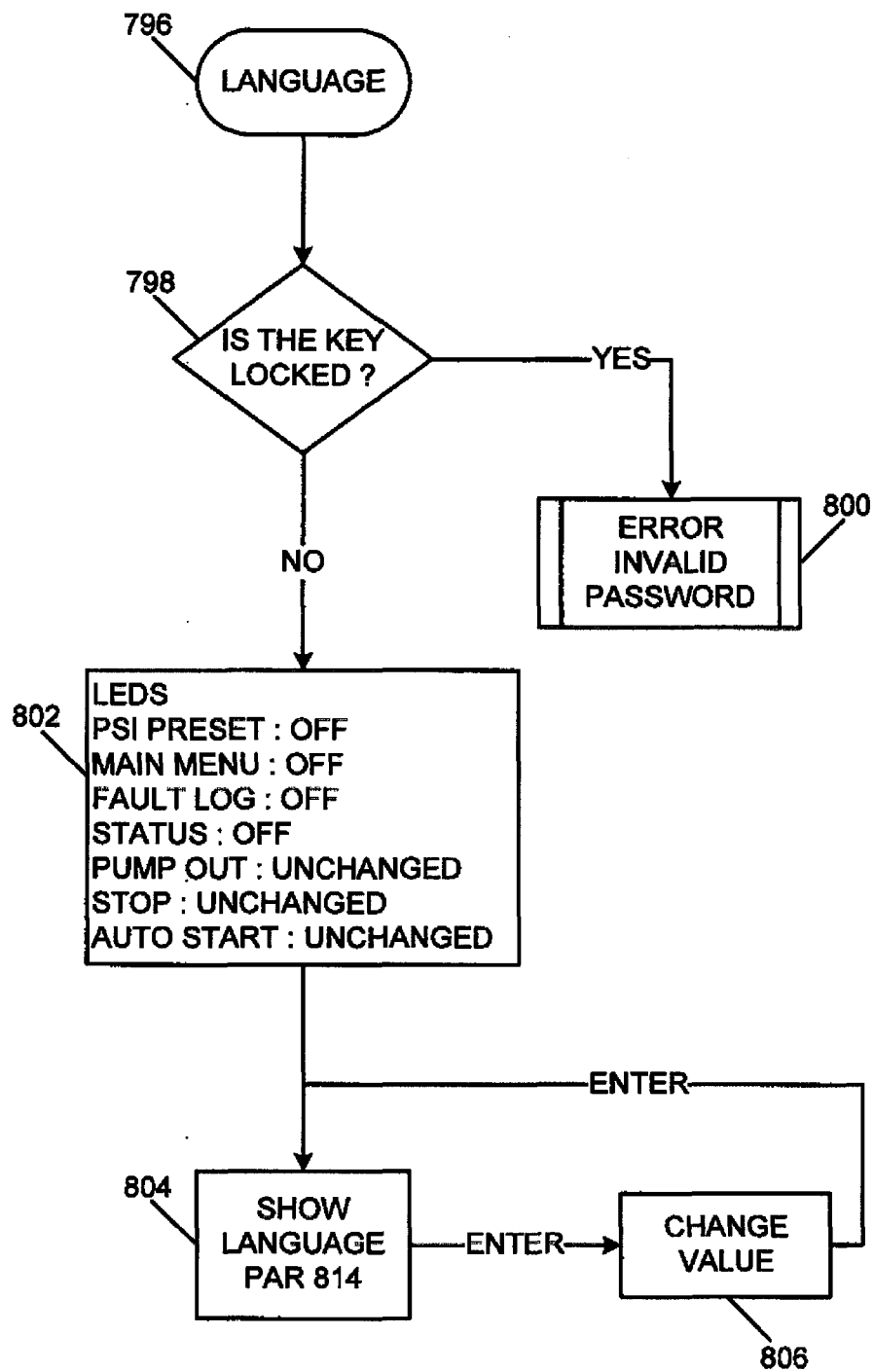


FIGURE 57

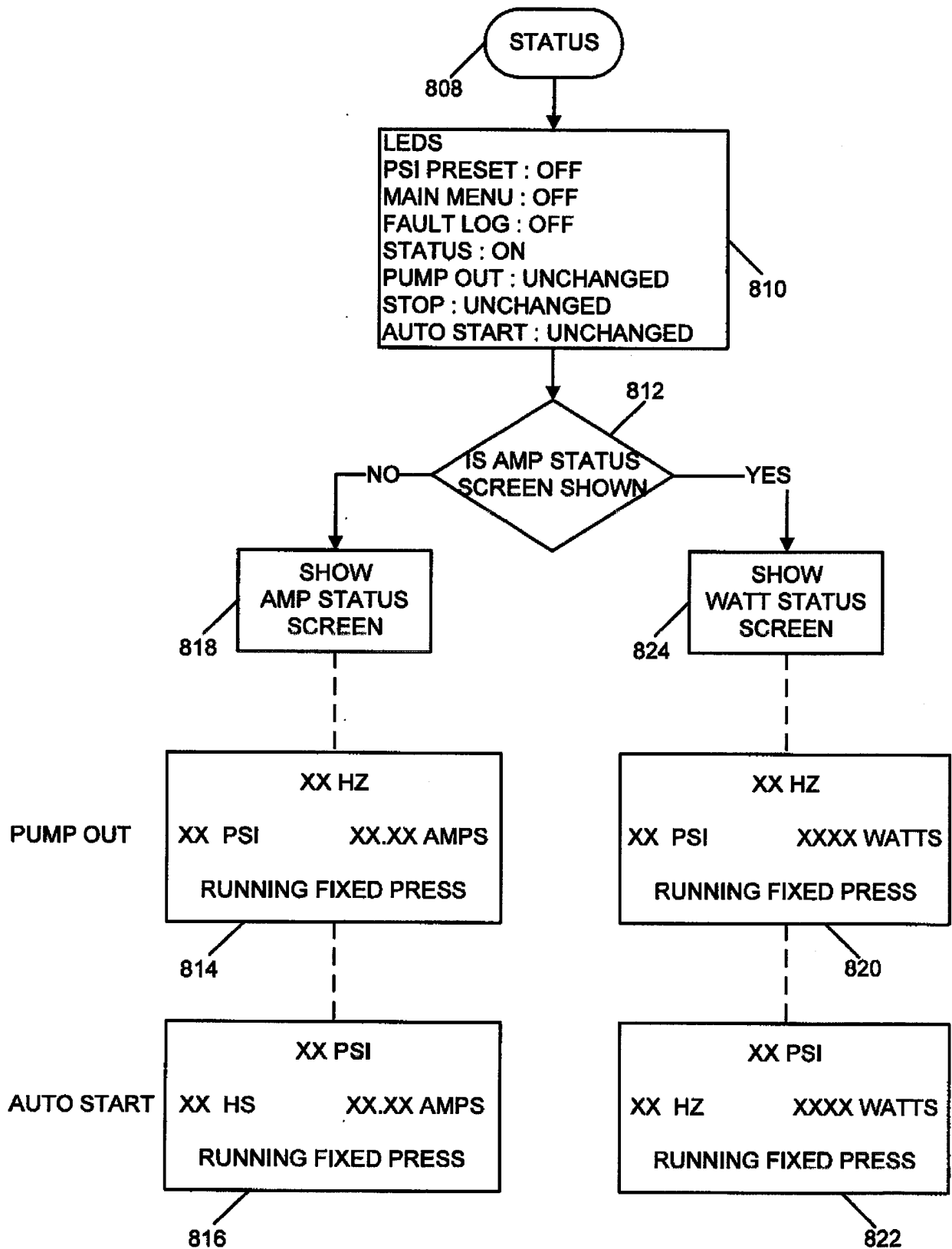


FIGURE 58

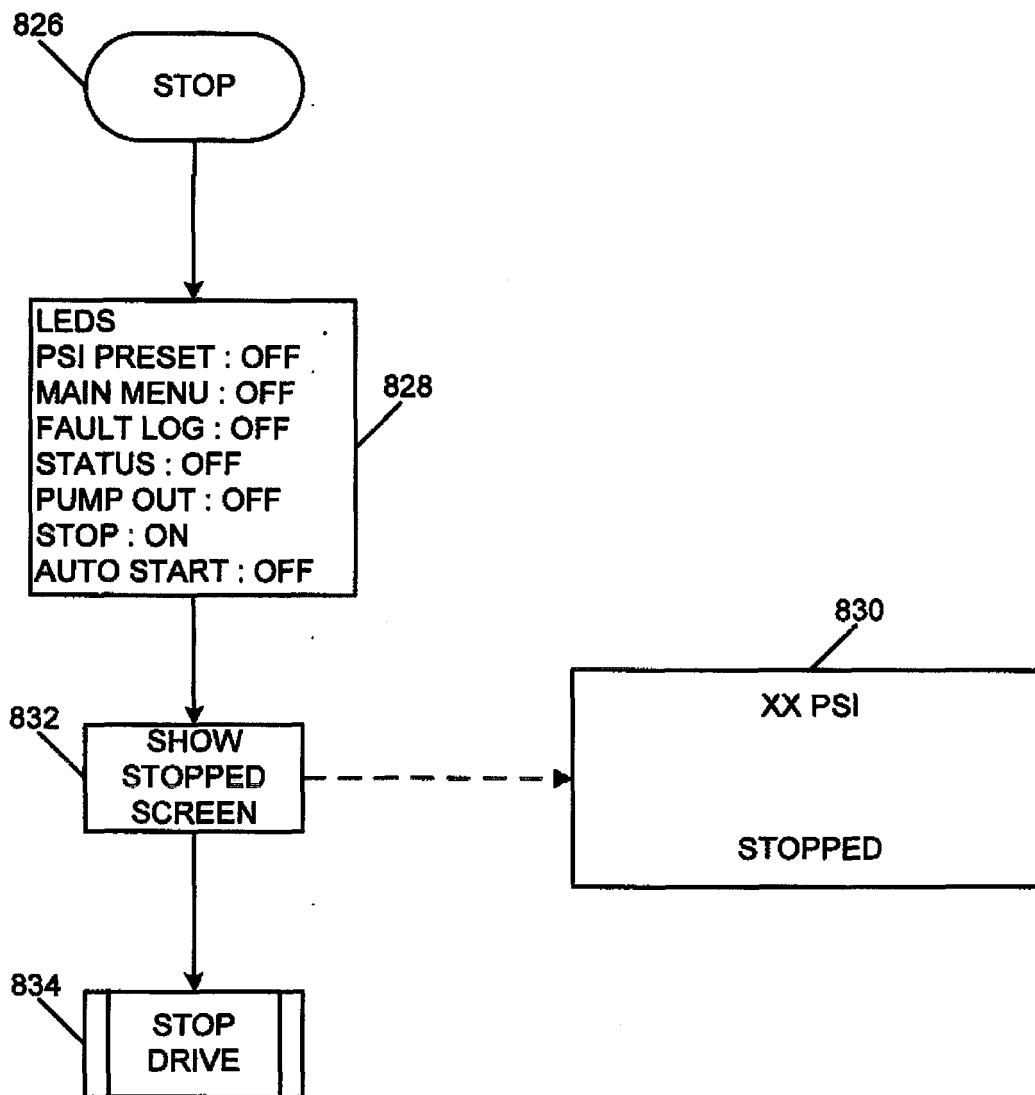


FIGURE 59

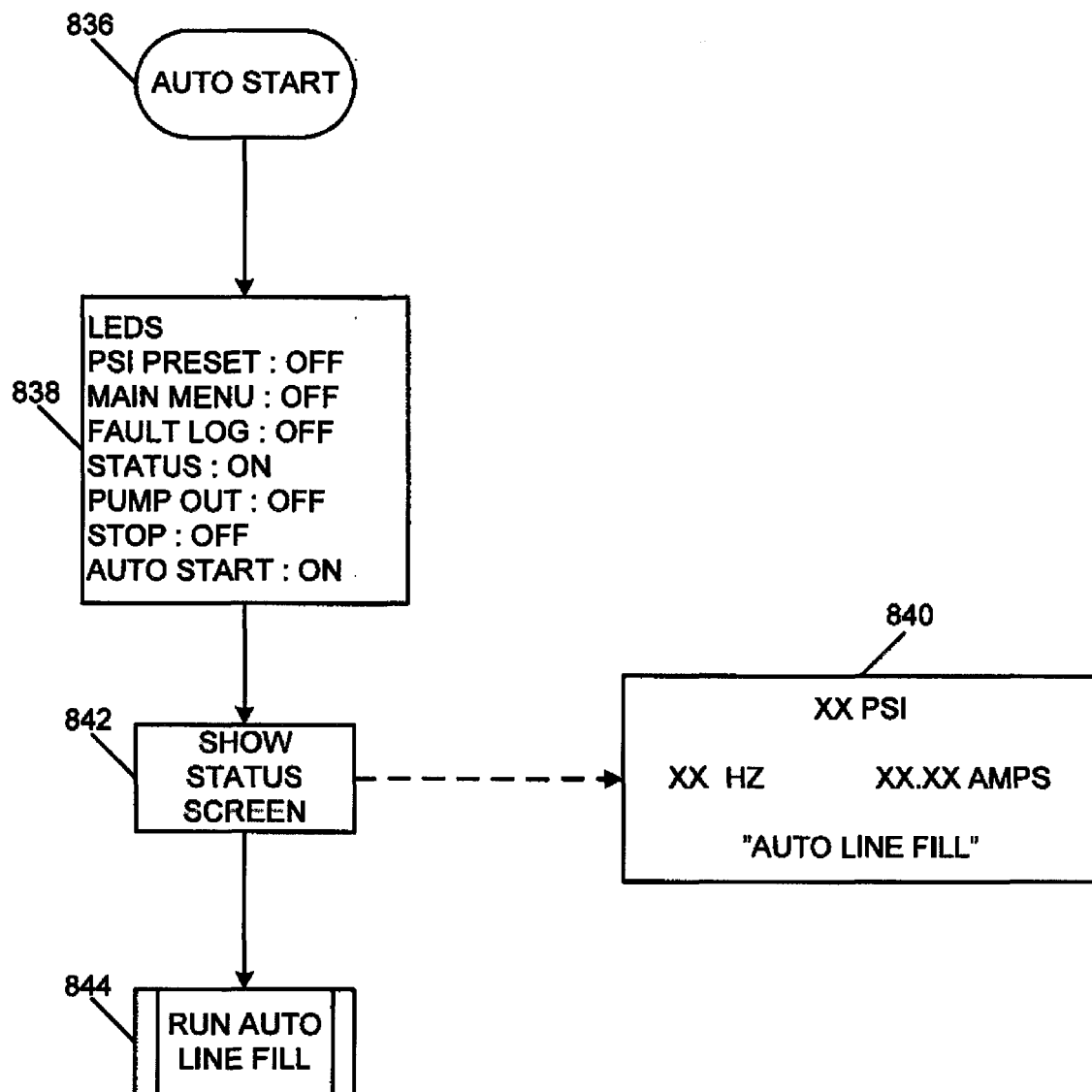


FIGURE 60

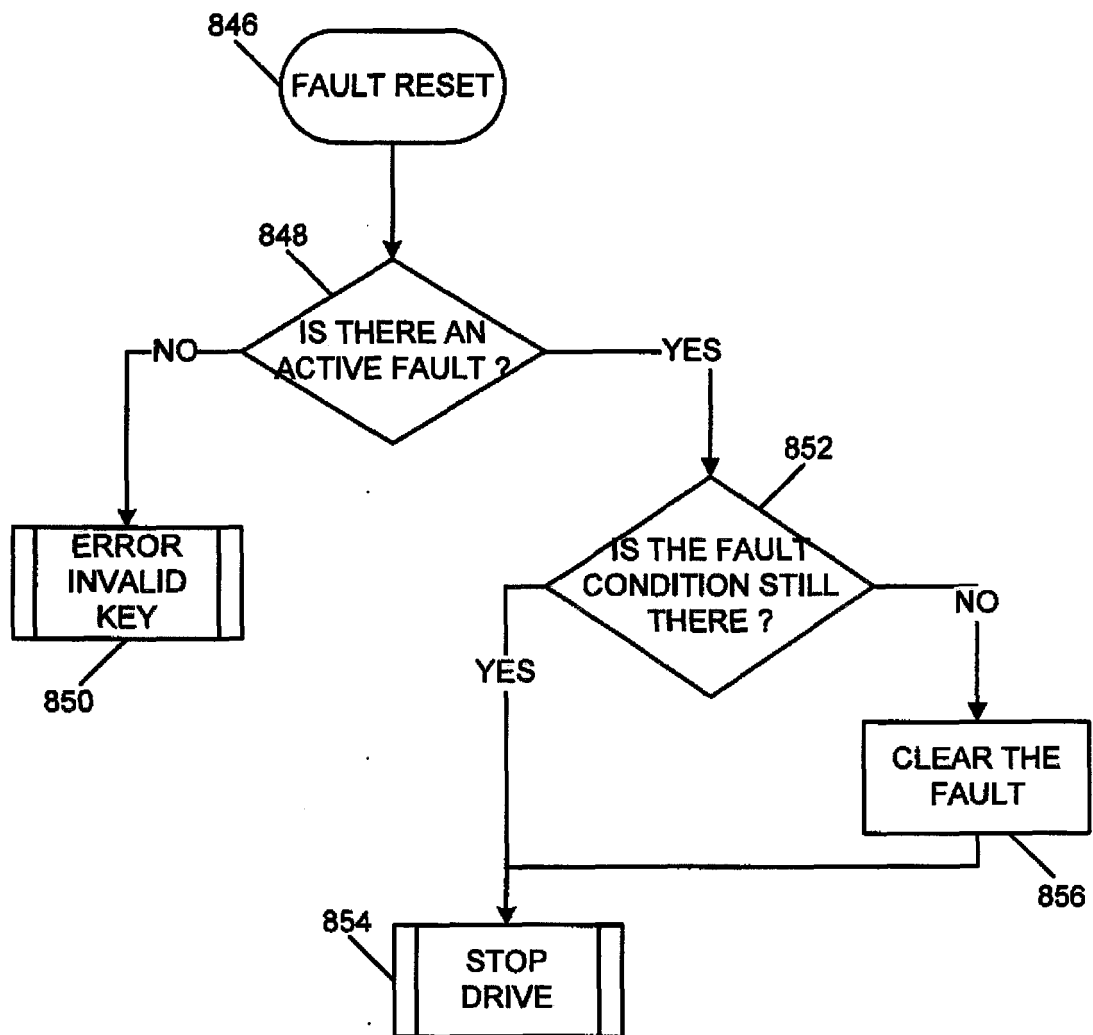


FIGURE 61

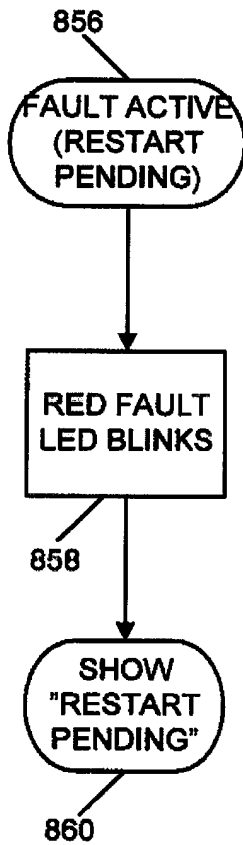


FIGURE 62A

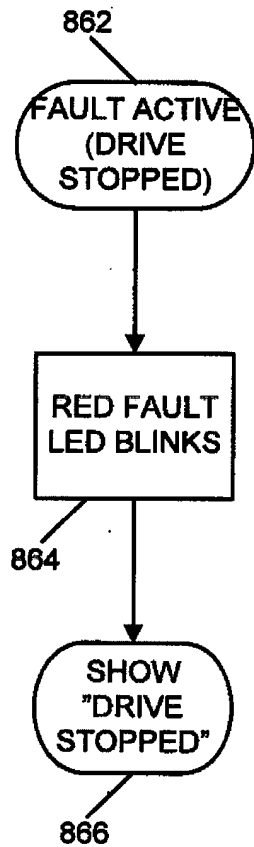


FIGURE 62B

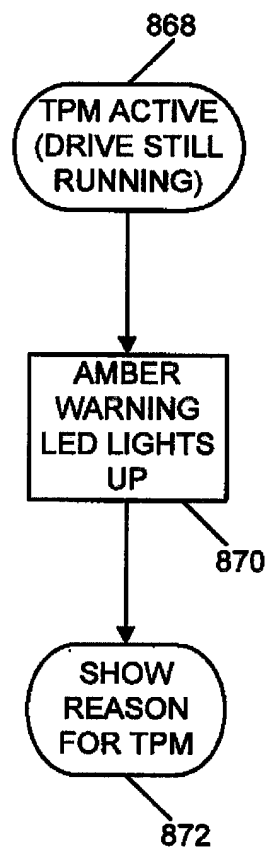


FIGURE 62C

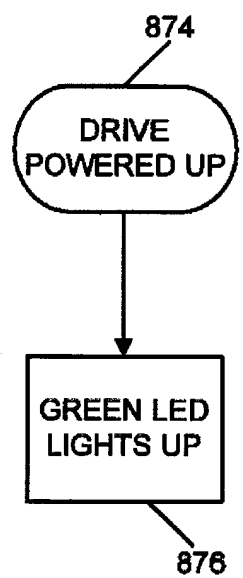


FIGURE 62D

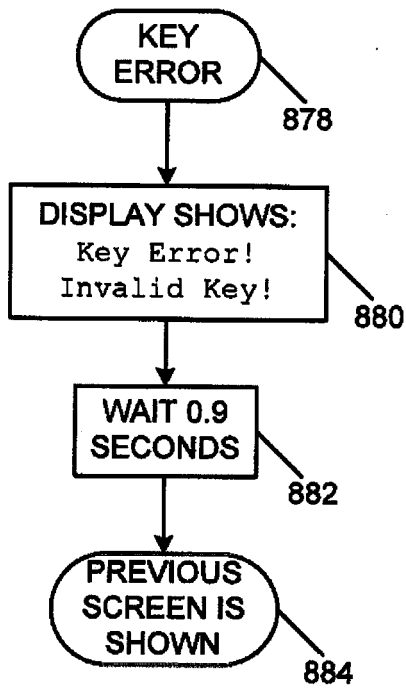


FIGURE 63A

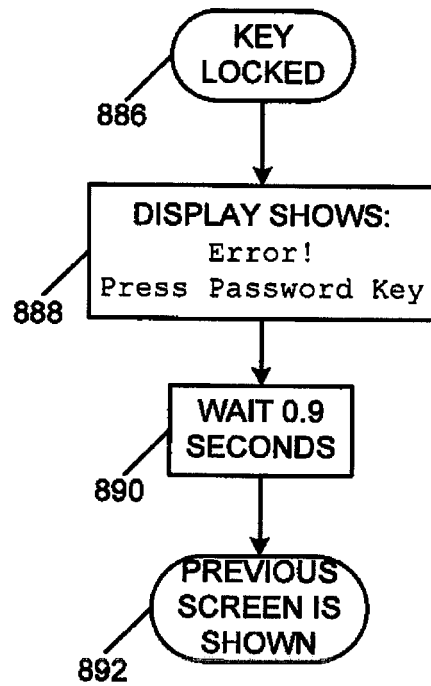


FIGURE 63B

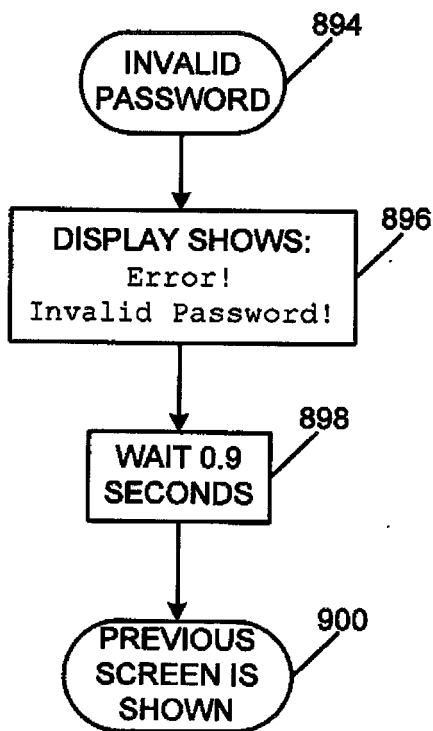


FIGURE 63C

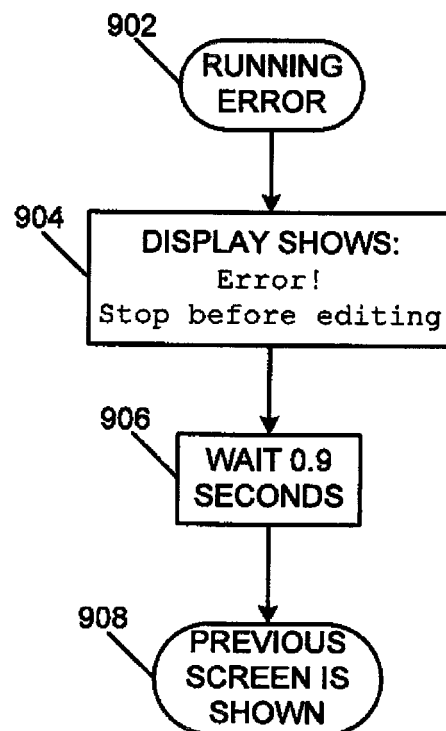


FIGURE 63D

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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Patent documents cited in the description

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- US 2003051541 A1 [0003]